



NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2019 VOLUME 43, EDITION 6

SPARKS

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM



AT THE WDM YORKTON

CEO'S REPORT

With Gratitude

JOYFUL GIVING

Merv and Arlene,
WDM Champions

LETTER TO THE WDM

One volunteer's
experience

UPCOMING EVENTS



WDM Moose Jaw

November 9	In Remembrance
November 21	Kids Secret Shopping / WDM Members Only Shopping Night
November 23	Kids Secret Shopping / Shortwave to Santa
November 23	Breakfast With Mrs. Claus and Girl Guides Bake Sale
December 14 & 21	A Christmas Long Ago
December 21 – January 5	School Break Short Films
January 18	Volunteer Blitz
February 8	Heritage Day

WDM North Battleford

Through April 17	<i>One Canada: Diefenbaker's Vision</i> travelling exhibit produced by the Diefenbaker Canada Centre
November 21 – January 4	Light Up The Village
February 9	Heritage Day

WDM Saskatoon

Through January 12	<i>Eaton's Once Upon a Christmas</i> WDM holiday exhibit
Select dates through February 23	<i>Seed Survivor</i> interactive exhibit by Nutrien and Agriculture in the Classroom – SK
November 14	WDM Members Night Supper
November 15 – 17	Christmas Store Sale
November 16	Children's Shopping Day
November 22 – November 30	Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation Festival of Trees
January 14 – April 28	Memoir Writing Class, Tuesdays bi-weekly – <i>Pre-registration required</i>
February 2	Heritage Festival of Saskatoon
February 10 – July 26	<i>Canada and Germany: Partners from Immigration to Innovation</i> travelling exhibit from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany

WDM Yorkton

February 16	Heritage Day
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Events and dates listed here are subject to change.

For details visit wdm.ca.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



With Gratitude

With the holiday season soon upon us, it's a time to reflect and be grateful for the many things we have at the WDM. The support and dedication of staff, volunteers and WDM friends is amazing. It is what makes the WDM such a great organization in our province.

The WDM is fortunate to have dedicated staff, many of whom have worked for the Museum for more than 10 years. In today's business world, this is often unheard of. Many of our volunteers have also been with the Museum for over 10 years. WDM volunteers continue to contribute so much of their time, knowledge and skills. Without them, most of the WDM's programs would not be possible. Each WDM location comes alive because our volunteers are there to breathe life into exhibits and programs. To our staff and volunteers located throughout the province, thank you for all you do.

The WDM is also fortunate to have friends - our members and donors, that support the work we do. As part of the WDM family, members and donors contribute to the Museum's work. The resources provided, whether it's purchasing a membership or making a donation, ensures the Museum can continue working on behalf of all Saskatchewan people. Your ongoing support is so important to our work, thank you.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to our staff, volunteers, members and donors. Your support and belief in the WDM is so appreciated. Our vision of a Saskatchewan where everyone belongs, and histories matter is achievable because of you. Thank you for everything you do for the WDM.

Wishing you all the best for the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Joan Kanigan, CEO

IN THE GALLERIES

A WDM Moose Jaw – Inside cab of steam locomotive *CPR 2634*
WDM Permanent Exhibit



B WDM North Battleford – *One Canada: Diefenbaker's Vision* from the Diefenbaker Canada Centre
November 12 – April 17



C WDM Saskatoon – *Eaton's Once Upon a Christmas* WDM Holiday Exhibit
Through January 12

D WDM Yorkton – *In A Prairie Attic: Bladon Family Toys*
WDM Permanent Exhibit

FEATURE



MERV AND ARLENE RUMPEL

Joyful Giving

Merv and Arlene Rumpel, and their company Pleasure-Way Industries Ltd., have been supporters of the Western Development Museum - Saskatoon for over 25 years. It was through their generous support that one of the largest infrastructure projects in WDM history, the re-design and construction of the parking lot, was able to be completed. Merv's generous efforts and perseverance to personally move this project forward have been truly inspiring.

Their latest gift will enable the WDM Saskatoon to beautify the landscape at the Museum. The WDM is thrilled to be working with Horticulture Science students from the University of Saskatchewan on the new landscaping design.

Merv and Arlene have quietly championed the Museum. With their permission we are now publicly sharing their story so that their family, friends and the broader community can join us in saying "thank you."

WDM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Nancy Martin, Chair - Regina
- Diana Ireland - Moose Jaw
- Susan Lamb - Saskatoon
- Gwen Beitel - Spring Valley
- Jack Dawes - Saltcoats
- Sharon Mohagen - North Battleford
- Raymond Sadler - Biggar

WDM MOOSE JAW



A CHRISTMAS LONG AGO

Kids Secret Shopping – Members Only

NOVEMBER 21, 4:00 – 7:00 PM

Young Members ages 3 and up can get a jump on their Christmas shopping at this WDM Members only event. With the help of our friendly elves, children can shop for items under \$15 (cash only please). No adults allowed! Please call to book your time slot.

Christmas at the WDM

NOVEMBER 23

Visit us as we get ready for the holidays:

Kids Secret Shopping & Shortwave to Santa

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Connect with Santa via shortwave radio.

Breakfast With Mrs. Claus & Girl Guides Bake Sale

9:00 – 11:00 am

Get your tickets at the Gift Shop or from the Girl Guides.

A Christmas Long Ago

DECEMBER 14 & 21, 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM (TWO SESSIONS EACH DATE)

Young visitors will learn about the festive season in Saskatchewan during settler times, see what types of gifts were given, decorate the tree with homemade ornaments and make an old-fashioned craft. For ages five and up; families welcome. Pre-registration is required.

WDM MOOSE JAW

SCHOOL BREAK SHORT FILMS

December 21 – January 5

Enjoy a selection of family friendly short films from the NFB.

CONTACT US

50 Diefenbaker Drive

Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1L9

Phone: 306-693-5989

Email: moosejaw@wdm.ca

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER HOURS

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Daily

CLOSED Remembrance Day, Christmas

Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day

CLOSED at 3:00 pm Christmas Eve,

New Years Eve



WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD



Gift Shop Open House

NOVEMBER 16 & 17, 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM

As the season of giving approaches, the WDM Gift Shop is featuring a variety of gifts and goodies for everyone to enjoy. Check out crafts made by local artisans, Christmas and other seasonal gifts, vintage toys and delicious food items. Don't forget to pick up some chocolate and old-fashioned candy as they make great stocking stuffers... or a nice treat for yourself.

Light Up The Village

NOVEMBER 21 – JANUARY 4

Enjoy wintertime in Saskatchewan and get into the festive spirit with a tour through the Heritage Village as it's lit up for the holidays. The cost is \$5 per vehicle, with a maximum six passengers per vehicle. All proceeds will support our Heritage Village repairs and restoration. Light Up The Village will not be open when temperatures are below -25° C. When the weather is nice, walking tours will also be available. Contact us for more details.

WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD

HERITAGE DAY

Mark February 9 on your calendar as we celebrate heritage in Saskatchewan with special activities.

CONTACT US

Box 183, Hwys 16 & 40
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Y1
Phone: 306-445-8033
Email: nbattleford@wdm.ca

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER HOURS

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Daily
CLOSED Remembrance Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day
CLOSED at 3:00 pm Christmas Eve, New Years Eve



WDM SASKATOON



EATON'S ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS EXHIBIT

Members Night and Store Sale

NOVEMBER 14

Enjoy a delicious turkey supper at either the 4:30 or 6:30 pm sitting. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$8 for children. They are available at the Museum Gift Shop. As a perk of membership, you can take advantage of great deals at the Christmas Store Sale that evening. The Christmas sale opens to the public on November 15 from 9:00 am - 8:00 pm and on November 16 - 17 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Children's Shopping Day

NOVEMBER 16, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Children can shop for everyone on their list, with items ranging from \$2 to \$10. WDM staff will be there to help children and volunteers from the WDM Saskatoon Women's Auxiliary will be happy to wrap their purchases.

Memoir Writing Class

JANUARY 14 - APRIL 28, 2020

EVERY SECOND TUESDAY FROM 1:30 - 3:30 PM

If you have a story to tell and the desire to do some writing, please join us for this class. Under the guidance of Glorie Tebbutt, and with the support of classmates, you'll gain skills to help you record your own story. Please contact the WDM Saskatoon for more information or to register.

WDM SASKATOON

SHAW TOY TREE

November 5 - December 15

In support of Care & Share, place a new, unwrapped toy under the tree for a child in need.

SASKATOON CITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FESTIVAL OF TREES

November 22 - 30

CAROLLING SUNDAY

December 15, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

CONTACT US

2610 Lorne Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0S6
Phone: 306-931-1910
Email: saskatoon@wdm.ca

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER HOURS

9:00 am - 5:00 pm Daily

CLOSED Remembrance Day, November 21,
Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day
CLOSED at 3:00 pm Christmas Eve,
New Years Eve





VOLUNTEERS HELP WITH THE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS PAST SCHOOL PROGRAM

Volunteers: The Gift of Giving

Throughout the year, the WDM Yorkton has been busy with various school and public programs. The fall season is particularly busy as we welcome school children for programs like Smarter Science Better Buildings and Celebrate Christmas Past. We are so fortunate to have enthusiastic volunteers who help with our programs.

In 2018, volunteers contributed over 150 hours to the Celebrate Christmas Past program. Because of their help, students were able to make a craft, explore the Museum as part of a scavenger hunt and go on a festive wagon ride. These volunteers also put up decorations, prepared treat bags and provided a snack for students. This program is going into its 21st year which would not be possible without the support and hard work of our WDM volunteers. Thank you volunteers!

Hold an Event at the WDM

Hosting a birthday party, wedding shower or a business meeting but don't have the space? The WDM Yorkton has the ideal room facilities for you. Meeting space is wheelchair accessible and includes free wi-fi.

Check us out at: wdm.ca/yorkton/visit/rentals.

WDM YORKTON

HERITAGE DAY

February 16

Join us for our annual celebration of heritage in Saskatchewan.

CONTACT US

Box 98 Hwy 16A West

Yorkton, SK S3N 2V6

Phone: 306-783-8361

Email: yorkton@wdm.ca

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER HOURS

9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday

12:00 - 5:00 pm Weekends

CLOSED Remembrance Day, Christmas

Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day

CLOSED at 3:00 pm Christmas Eve,

New Years Eve

FEATURE

One Volunteer's Experience

WDM volunteers take on many jobs at the Museum. One volunteer activity is the role of tour guide or Museum interpreter. Here is the story of one of these Museum interpreters, John Courtney. John volunteered at Métis Cultural Days, presented by CUMFI, at the WDM Saskatoon and shared his experience with us.



Today, Friday 6 September, shortly after I started my two-hour stint on the Main Street of Boomtown, I met in consecutive order five very different couples.

The first was from Palo Alto, California and they LOVED the Museum. They were driving across the country and had read or heard about WDM so decided to spend the entire day there.

Second was a couple from Switzerland who were also driving across Canada. They were less forthcoming, but they seemed to like the WDM. All they were interested in talking about was how small our Rockies are compared with their Alps!

Third was a couple from Australia who were sheep ranchers in western Victoria state, and who wanted to see the farm

machinery, etc., that we have to offer at WDM. They were going to spend one hour at the Museum; they were then on hour four at that point. And I kept bumping into them over the next two - three hours. They learned so much from the outstanding Doukhobor exhibition that we have right now. Australia has no Doukhobors, I learned. (Being a volunteer guide is a two-way learning experience).

Fourth was a young Chinese couple from Shanghai who are living in the city for three months learning English as a second language. They were very enthusiastic, but I have to admit there was a bit of a language barrier. On their cell phone they had determined they wanted to see the sod hut (what is it?), the dry goods store (what are dry goods?), and the depression house (what is depression?). Happily, I was able to inform them. As with the Aussies, I often bumped into this couple on the Main Street where the Métis fiddlers and dancers were performing to large crowds, I understand we had 1530 school children there today, along with teachers, parents and others involved in the Métis Cultural Day celebrations. It certainly sounded like that many!!

Finally, was a couple from Winnipeg who wanted to see, as much as anything, the Eaton's House and catalogue. They said as they were leaving what a treasure we have here.

All five (I hope this can include the Swiss couple) left with an entirely favourable impression of the Museum.

I spent a totally fascinating 20 minutes listening to a Dené woman who had 150 youngsters captivated by her talk, describe the differences between moccasin making and beading by the northern Dené (smoked caribou or moose hide, with beading patterns based entirely on nature) and Plains Cree.



I ended my day sitting with a group of youngsters around a campfire toasting bannock on a willow stick. That was fun, though I have to admit the bannock seemed dry. When I mentioned this to the very friendly and helpful older Métis woman sitting with us, she said she would bring in her tea kettle tomorrow. Bannock, she claimed, is always served with tea.

This is what makes volunteering at WDM worthwhile.

Cheers,

John Courtney, WDM volunteer

FEATURE

WDM Gift Ideas

WDM Memberships

Free Museum admission to all four WDM locations, discounts, special invitations, *Sparks* newsletter.

Gift Cards

Gift cards from \$5 to \$250 spread the joy of shopping at all four WDM gift shops and the Boomtown Café and Photo Studio in the WDM Saskatoon.



Western Development Museum – Corporate Office
2935 Lorne Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0S5

WDM Corporate Office

For *SPARKS* and membership questions please contact us at:

Phone: 306-934-1400

Toll Free: 1-800-363-6345

Email: info@wdm.ca

WDM Corporate Office Business Hours

8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday

Closed statutory holidays

Sparks Editor: Kerry Lubchenko

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WDM.CA



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