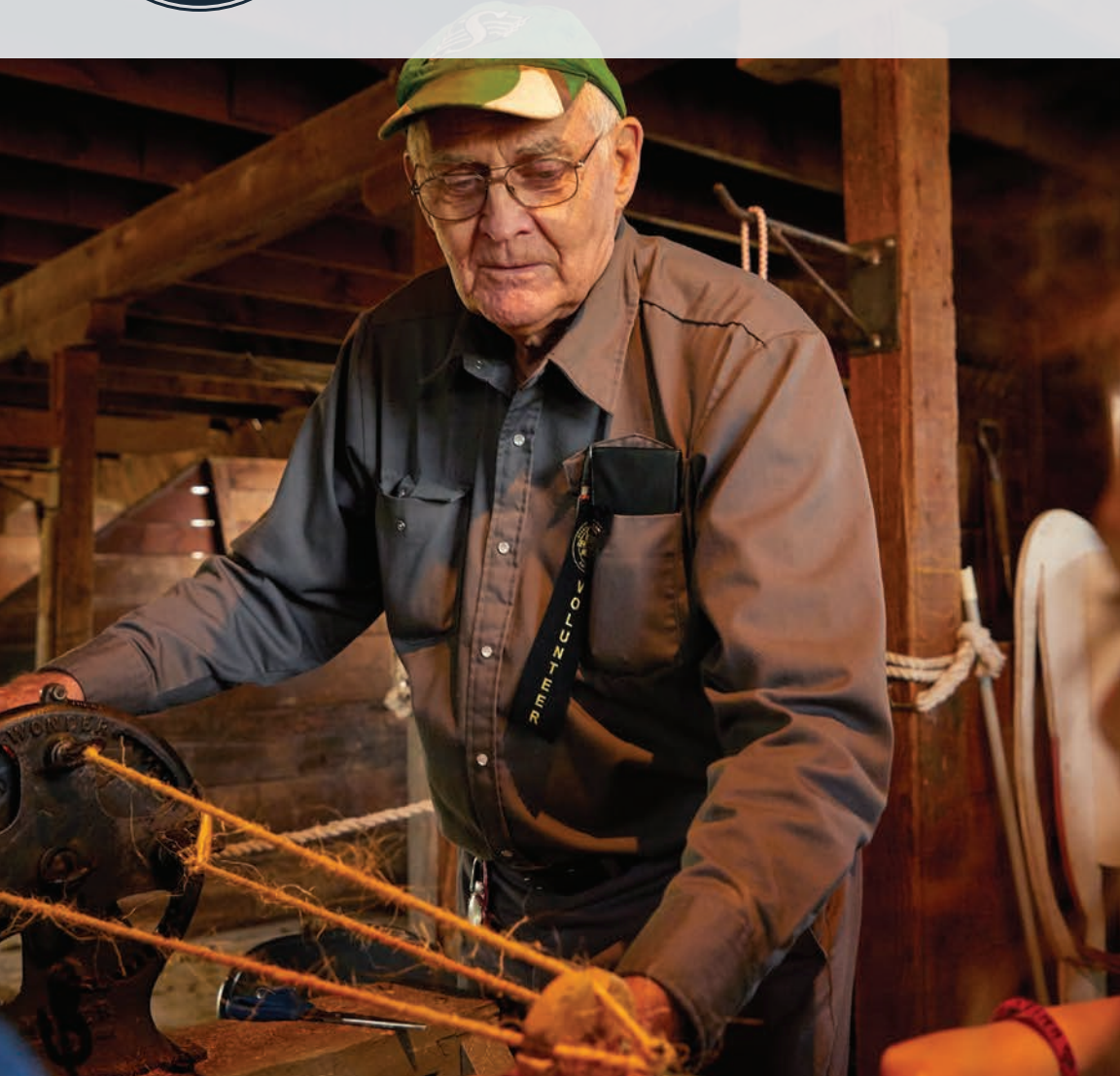




APRIL – JUNE 2025 • VOLUME 49, EDITION 2

SPARKS

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM



Uncovering History

Researching Wing Lee Laundry

National Volunteer Week

Celebrating WDM Volunteers

Summer's Almost Here

Get ready for WDM Camps

MOOSE JAW

NORTH BATTLEFORD

SASKATOON

YORKTON



WDM.CA

Here is What is Happening at the WDM

WDM Moose Jaw

April — June Monthly Seek and Finds

June 14 Pop The Hood

WDM North Battleford

April — June Monthly Seek and Finds

April 10 & 17 Red Dress Beading Workshop, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

June 18 National Indigenous Peoples Day Traditional Pow Wow*

WDM Saskatoon

Through June 30 Thursday Night Demonstrations, 5:00 — 7:30 pm

Through June 30 *Saskatchewan Sari-Sari: Filipino Roots, Prairie Growth* featuring Filipino-Canadian Community History Exhibit

April — June Monthly Seek and Finds

April 12 Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market*

April 15, May 20 & June 17 Pop in and Play with the WDM

May 16 Saskatoon Regional Heritage Fair, 1:15 — 2:15 pm*

June TBD Spark Your Pride

WDM Yorkton

April — June Monthly Seek and Finds

April 12 Smarter Science Better Buildings Public Open House, 12:00 — 5:00 pm

April 22 Spring's Awakening Day Camp

May 4 Mommy & Me Cookies and Tea, 1:00 — 4:00 pm

May 18 Artifact Discovery

June 1 & 14 Movies at the Museum, 1:00 — 4:00 pm

June 8 Daddy & I Coffee and Pie, 1:00 — 4:00 pm

July 1 July 1st Picnic and Celebration

* Not a WDM organized event

Events and dates listed here are subject to change. For details visit wdm.ca



Celebrating Volunteers

April 27 – May 3 is Canada's National Volunteer Week. As an organization, the WDM has benefited greatly from the support, hard work and dedication of our volunteers. So have all who visit the WDM and take part in our programming.

|| During National Volunteer Week 2025, we come together to recognize and celebrate all the ways volunteers make waves from coast to coast to coast. Together we create ripples of change. And through the power of our amplified impact, Volunteers Make Waves.

VOLUNTEER CANADA

Volunteers support many areas of the WDM's work both behind the scenes and out in the public. This support allows the WDM to achieve so much more than we would otherwise be able to. In this issue of *Sparks*, you will get to meet some of our amazing volunteers and the contributions they are making to the WDM.

I am truly grateful for the gifts of time and talent we receive from every one of our volunteers. To all our volunteers, thank you for sharing your passion for Saskatchewan's history with us. Thank you for your work, your dedication and for being such an important part of the Western Development Museum.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joan Kanigan, CEO

Sparks is published four times a year and delivered to WDM members. It's a great way to keep up to date on everything happening at all WDM locations.

Editor: Corinne Daelick

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On the Cover:

WDM North Battleford volunteer Dick Scotton makes rope with students at Museum Days

In This Edition . . .

6 Volunteers Make Waves

We will introduce you to a few of the volunteers who are making a positive impact on the WDM.

12 Hidden Stories in City Directories

Join 2024 summer curatorial intern Shannon Putnam as she works to unearth the story of the Wing Lee Laundry at the WDM Saskatoon.

20 Saskatchewan People

Meet Dr. Frances McGill, Canada's first female pathologist, who had a leading role in the advancement of public health and forensics in Saskatchewan.



WDM Board of Directors

Orlanda Drebit
Chair, Saskatoon

Bernie Broughton
Secretary, Saskatoon

Anita Fuller
Saskatoon

Brian Martynook
Moose Jaw

Hours of Operation

WDM Moose Jaw
Daily 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

WDM Yorkton
Through May 31
Weekdays 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Weekends 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
June – September
Daily 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

WDM North Battleford
Daily 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

WDM Saskatoon
Mon – Wed 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thurs 9:00 am – 8:00 pm
Fri – Sun 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Boomtown Café (Saskatoon)
Daily 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

WDM Community Membership Program

The WDM Community Membership Program is available for non-profit organizations, such as care homes, group homes and assisted living facilities. For just \$170, your organization can enjoy unlimited visits to all four WDM locations throughout the year.

This is a fantastic opportunity for non-profits to engage with the rich history of Saskatchewan alongside their community.

Please Note: Valid for up to 12 people (including chaperones) per visit. Special events are excluded from this offer.



Sign up today by scanning
the QR code or visit:

wdm.ca/communitymembership

Be Part of Our Story: Donate to the WDM!

Your donation helps keep the WDM as a place to connect with our shared history – today and into the future.

Donations can be made online at wdm.ca/donate, or by phone at 306-934-1400 or 1-800-363-6345.

Scan the QR code to go to our donation form.



Celebrating WDM Volunteers

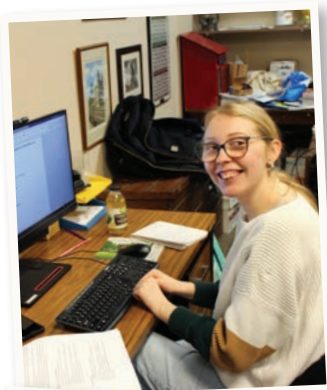
Many of you know the importance of volunteers to the WDM. A volunteer may have handed you an event program, shown you to the gift shop or answered questions about an exhibit. Perhaps you've seen them helping children with a craft, swinging a hammer in our blacksmith shops or putting stitches in a quilt. If you haven't seen them, you may have noticed their handiwork on a freshly painted wall or heard how they used their computer or research skills to help with a behind the scenes project. WDM volunteers fill many roles and without them the Museum would be a much quieter place.

Across Canada, volunteers will be celebrated as part of National Volunteer Week 2025 from April 27 - May 3. The theme of National Volunteer Week is "Volunteers Make Waves: Together, we create ripples of change." According to the organization Volunteer Canada, "Each individual volunteer contribution, big or small, creates momentum and has the power to influence and inspire, joining a wave of positive change."

Please join us in celebrating our WDM volunteers and volunteers across Canada. Thank you volunteers for making our communities better.

We hope you'll enjoy meeting some of our WDM volunteers in the following pages.

#VolunteersMakeWaves #NVW2025



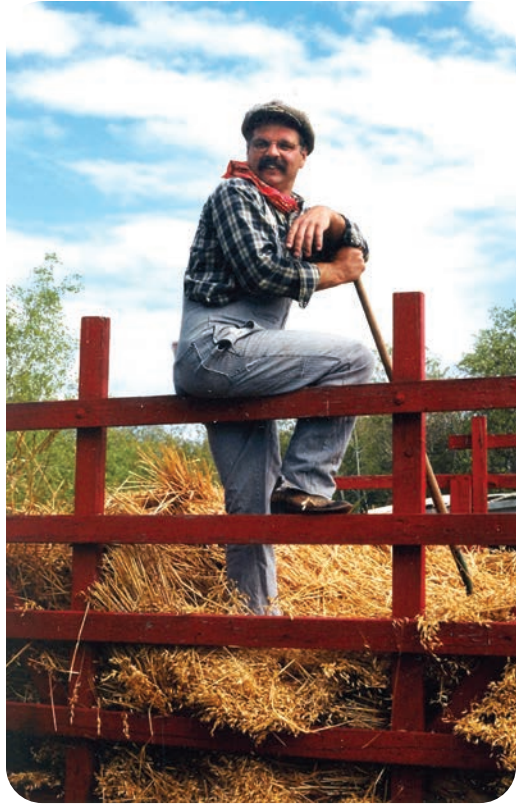
Harvey Drotar

As a farm kid growing up in the 1960s, Harvey Drotar's family still used an old binder to cut grain for livestock feed. As Harvey spent many hours stooking this grain, he likely never imagined he'd still be using this skill sixty years later. As president of the Yorkton Threshermen's Club (YTC), Harvey takes on many roles including running the stooking competition during the Threshermen's Show and Seniors' Festival held at the WDM Yorkton. He really enjoys encouraging visitors to take part and showing them how to make a stook.

Harvey joined the YTC in 1985 because he was interested in history and reliving the past through the demonstrations and equipment at the WDM. What Harvey found in volunteering was "more than just doing demonstrations but also good fellowship and camaraderie." Over the years, he's worked on projects ranging from making rope and driving the WDM bus at events to repairing tractors and the sawmill. Harvey recalls when one of his fellow Threshermen got stuck inside the pich (clay oven) while they were doing regular maintenance. You can imagine the laughter as they tried to pull their friend out through the small oven door.

Thirteen years ago, Harvey became president of the YTC. Prior to that he had served six years as secretary and six years as vice president. Being president is a role he really enjoys although he admits "it can be difficult at times but the benefits outweigh the challenges."

Thank you, Harvey for 40 years of service and commitment to the YTC and the WDM!



Harvey on the hay rack, c 1995



Harvey demonstrates stooking at the Threshermen's Show and Seniors' Festival, 2018

Ellen Misfeldt

There are many reasons to volunteer. For Ellen Misfeldt, it goes back to her childhood.

"The WDM always has and will always have a special place in my heart. As a small child my grandparents, Florence and Joe Bentham, were volunteers at the Museum. My grandma with the WDM Singers and the Women's Auxiliary and my grandpa with the Pioneer Threshermen's Club. I can remember going there all the time when they babysat us. It quickly became one of my favourite places to be. There is always something new to see or explore. I think that is where my love of antiques and history began. For as long as I can remember I wanted to be a volunteer just like my grandparents. I love learning new things and being a part of a place that I love."



Ellen and her grandmother, Florence Bentham, in the Christmas 1910 program at the WDM Saskatoon, 1996

PHOTO CREDIT: MARY SAWCHUK



Ellen volunteering at Boo Town, 2024

Ellen started volunteering in 2006, shortly after graduating from high school. Over the years, she volunteered at the WDM Saskatoon and the Corporate Office, trying her hand at everything from candle-making to modelling in fashion shows. Open to trying new things, in 2024 Ellen became president of the Boomtown Volunteers Association at the WDM Saskatoon.

Ellen's connection to the WDM has come full circle from when she was a child to today, showing her own children the joy of volunteering.

"There really isn't anything I don't like about volunteering. I have met wonderful people and love listening to their stories. I love being able to keep history alive. I also love seeing the school groups come in and see them excited about the Museum like I was."

Thanks to Ellen, and others like her, who have kept their childhood love of the WDM alive by giving their time to us.

Don Fox

Don Fox has loved steam engines since he was a kid. He had always been attracted to these big machines and he wanted to learn more about them. In 1991, Don heard the WDM Moose Jaw was looking for volunteers, so he decided to sign up. Luckily for Don, his first volunteer project was partial restoration of the 75 Case steam traction engine (WDM-1973-S-2784). As Don put it, "I got involved in the partial restoration and I never left."

Don comes from a farm background and has been around machinery all of his life. His mechanical skills have been invaluable to the WDM for many projects including a full restoration of the 75 Case steam engine which was completed in 2019. This is the biggest WDM project that Don has worked on and it is his favourite. He also trained to be a steam engineer for both the steam traction engine and the K+S Short Line 101 locomotive.

Steam engines aren't Don's only passion. In 1994, he heard about the WDM's blacksmith training course. Growing up half a block from the local blacksmith, Don remembers watching the 'smith at work until he was shooed back home. He wanted to learn this skill so he took the blacksmith course and has been hooked ever since. For 30 years, he has shared his expertise in the WDM Moose Jaw blacksmith shop including demonstrating for students in the Museum Day school program. He also makes time to mentor new blacksmiths.

Thank you for sharing your skills and knowledge with the WDM for over 30 years, Don!



Don with the plaque he made commemorating restoration work on the WDM's 75 Case steam traction engine, January 9, 2025



Don demonstrating blacksmithing for students at Museum Day, June 1, 2023

Apaer (Nour) Nereguli

In January 2024, Apaer (Nour) Nuerguli jumped into the unknown and began volunteering at the WDM Saskatoon. As she had only recently moved to Canada, this was a great way to get to know her new community. In the last year, Nour volunteered as a Museum interpreter sharing the story of artifacts and exhibits, helping with school programs and leading hands-on demonstrations and activities. She's learned a lot and has had a lot of fun too. Nour laughs as she recalls volunteering as a shopkeeper in one of the Boomtown buildings: "I was wearing an apron, like the old days, and standing behind the counter. Visitors came in and they never noticed there was a real person there. When I said hi they'd jump and shout "Geez, I thought you were a statue!"

|| Being a newcomer, I was searching for a chance to embrace the unknown. When I saw the WDM booth at the Volunteer Fair, I believed that there was no better way than this unique opportunity.

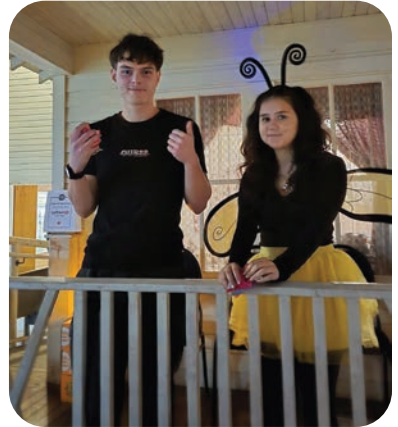
APAER (NOUR) NEREGULI

As Nour became more familiar with the WDM, she noticed how much she was learning about her new home and how important it was for her children to learn this as well. After each volunteer session, she would go home and share her excitement with her children, Aisan (Gus) and Maliya Alidibu. These stories piqued their interest and they wanted to volunteer too. Nour is happy to see her children's affection for the WDM: "My children particularly enjoy helping with hands-on exhibits and interactive activities. They love engaging with visitors and sharing their enthusiasm for the Museum displays."

As for Nour, her favourite thing about volunteering is "the sense of community and the opportunity to share my love for history with others. I also enjoy working on special projects and seeing the positive impact



Nour in the Boomtown General Store, February 2025



Gus and Maliya help at Boo Town, October 30, 2024

Photo Credit: Apaer Nuerguli

we make together. I admire all the devoted volunteers and hearing their stories about the WDM."

Thank you Nour, Gus and Maliya, for sharing your enthusiasm for the WDM with our visitors.



Dick makes rope at Museum Days, June 2019

Dick Scotton

Ask Dick Scotton what he's learned as a WDM volunteer for the past 28 years and he'll tell you: "Museum volunteers are a special breed. They give a lot of value because of all of the years of skill and expertise that they bring."

When Dick began volunteering at the WDM North Battleford, he brought a lot of different skills from repairing engines to working with children. Growing up on a farm near Mayfair, Dick learned to build and repair almost anything. A few of Dick's favourite WDM projects include using his mechanical skills to help bring a 1929 John Deere stationery engine to life in the grain elevator in the *Heritage Farm and Village*. He also worked on the restoration of a logging sled and has done work on the big Reeves tractor which is often seen at WDM shows.

Before retiring, Dick was a teacher. At the WDM, he uses his teaching skills to delight children by showing them how to use hand tools from Saskatchewan's farming past, like making rope at the Museum Days school program. Dick also served as president of the WDM North Battleford Volunteer Association for five years. The Volunteer Association helps raise funds for the WDM to help grow the Museum's impact.

For Dick, the hum of an engine and the smile on children's faces are all signs that what he is doing at the WDM is worthwhile.

Thanks, Dick for sharing your many skills and enthusiasm with everyone at the WDM.

Names, Numbers and Narratives

Hidden Stories in City Directories

Shannon Putnam was a 2024 summer curatorial intern at the WDM Corporate Office, working with Chief Curator Dr. Elizabeth Scott as part of Western University’s MA Public History program. Shannon was tasked with investigating the history of Wing Lee Laundry - a building in the WDM Saskatoon’s 1910 Boomtown exhibit. Shannon created a three-part blog series about her research process. Below is part one of that series.

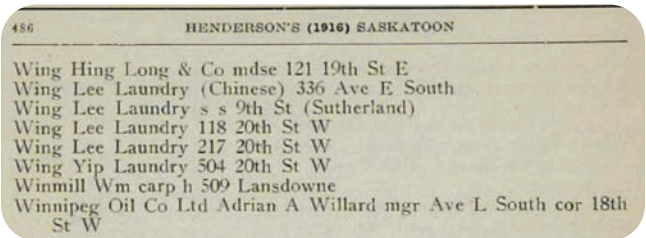
When was the last time you pulled out a phone book, a city directory or an address book with a carefully curated list of friends and family phone numbers? Some of you might read this and

chuckle as nostalgia comes flooding back. In contrast, others might be lost, as phone books have mostly become irrelevant, replaced by the digital contact list in our smartphones.

I recently completed an internship at the WDM as part of their larger language remediation project. My job was researching the Wing Lee Laundry building. Suppose you have wandered down Boomtown Street and walked inside some of the buildings. You will notice that not all have interpretive text, providing more information about the artifacts on display. When you enter the laundry, there are many artifacts including sad irons, washboards and tubs. There is little indication of who worked at this shop and their life.



Wing Lee Laundry, Boomtown



Page 456 of Henderson’s Saskatoon City Directory 1916-17 (Canada: Henderson’s Directories Limited, November 1916)

I began the search with little information on the laundry. I knew the physical address was 336 Ave E South in Riversdale. So, what did I do? I opened up an old city directory and went straight to the street index to begin my search.

Just as your address book may contain annotations, or phone contact lists might be decorated with emojis,

city directories offer insight into the historical context of the period and help me, as the researcher, ask more detailed questions, becoming a catalyst for my research process.

Where did I find Saskatoon city directories? The WDM's George Shepherd Library has a few decades' worth, particularly for the 1960s and 1970s. Earlier years of Saskatoon's history can be found on internetarchive.org. I began my search using the Internet Archive database because I could input search terms that would feature related results rather than manually flipping through the pages of a book. I began by looking at the year 1915 and worked my way backward to determine when the laundry building opened for the first time. My first search term was "Wing" for Wing Lee Laundry. To my surprise, there were three Wing Lee Laundries in 1915 noted as being located at: 217, 20th Street West; w s 9th Street nr 2nd Ave (Sutherland); and 336 Ave E South.

I traced two (all but Sutherland) back to 1913. It wasn't until 1914 that the laundry at 336 Ave E South changed its name to Wing Lee Lai Laundry to differentiate it from the other two Wing Lee Laundries. I noticed this in the street

portion of the directory. However, I needed to verify the proprietors of Wing Lee Laundry, as I was told there were multiple proprietors. Would the directory help me find that out?

The alphabetical section of the directories were incredibly helpful and provided multiple avenues for me to expand my search terms. I searched using the terms "Wing," "laundry" and "Lai." I had to consider searchable terms and how to find the correct information. I encountered some challenges due to human errors, changes in names and limitations of search engines.

Over the years, the laundry changed names, and I had to cross-reference city directories to track the changes. I examined city directories from 1908 to 1975 multiple times to ensure I got all the name changes and shifts in the laundry industry. Soon enough, I verified a name on the

building - Yee Foo and two business partners towards the end of the laundry's lifespan, Yee Quon and Lai Chow.

As I had more information to go off, I developed more research questions:

- Why was Yee Foo's name frequently attached to the laundry when his business partners' names only appeared once?
- Who decides what information is included in the city directories?
- How do societal attitudes of the times show up in the city directory?
- Did businesses have to pay to advertise their business in the directory? Did they get to determine how their company was listed?

Thank you to Shannon for her research and contributions to this project. We also extend our gratitude to Florence Hwang, great-granddaughter of Yee Foo, and her family for their assistance. Thanks to the City of Saskatoon Archives for their help in accessing records related to the Wing Lee Lai Laundry and to Harris Ford, PhD Candidate in History at the University of Saskatchewan, for sharing his research on Chinese businesses in Riversdale, Saskatoon.



Scan the QR code above to read the full three-part series.



Where Summer Sparks Smiles

Adventure Awaits at WDM Summer Camps

It's the time of year when our thoughts turn to summer and all of the fun activities taking place at the WDM. For the younger crowd, we've got summer camps at all four WDM locations. Check out the offerings at a WDM near you, and visit wdm.ca for more information.

|| My son greatly enjoyed the camp; in fact, this was his favourite camp out of all the ones he attended this summer. He is already asking to go back again next year.

PARENT OF 2024 CAMPER

WDM Moose Jaw

These camps for 7 – 10 year-olds each have a different theme so children can register for one camp or both. Camps take place from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

- July 8 – 10
- August 12 – 14

WDM North Battleford

Each week has a different theme. Children ages 6 – 12 can register for one week or all four! Camps take place from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

- July 7 – 11
- July 14 – 18
- July 28 – August 1
- August 11 – 15

BRAINBUSTERS

Liar's Club

Cue the game show music... the WDM's version of Liar's Club is back. Liar's Club was a game show featuring a panel of celebrity guests who offered explanations of obscure or unusual objects. Contestants attempted to determine which explanation was correct.



Which of the following explanations is the truth?

- This homemade flour sifter was used by putting flour in the bucket then sifting it through the long teeth into a bowl.
- This homemade toy bucket used long teeth to separate sand from rocks and the long teeth could also be used to make patterns in the sand.
- This homemade fruit picker was used by pulling the long teeth through the bush, forcing the berries to fall into the bucket.
- This is a homemade kitty litter scoop. The long teeth sifted the cat poop from the kitty litter.

Did you know...

Since 1947, over 4,000 lakes, waterfalls and islands in northern Saskatchewan have been named after Saskatchewan soldiers who died serving Canada, from the First World War to the Afghanistan conflict.

That's a **Sask Fact!**

Search for the Saskatchewan Symbol

Hidden somewhere in this issue of *Sparks* is a Western Red Lily like this one. This lily is Saskatchewan's official flower. Can you find it?



Spot the Difference

Did you know Saskatchewan has over 100,000 lakes and rivers? At the WDM Moose Jaw, we celebrate how we travel on these waters in the Watercraft Gallery. Nestled among the planes, trains and automobiles you'll find a replica steamboat, a reconstructed river ferry along with row boats and motorboats.

Look closely to spot **seven** differences between the exhibit scenes.



Answers on
page 21.

Hands-On With History

Museum Days School Program

Every May and June, the WDM starts buzzing with the sounds of students exploring the Museum while on year-end field trips. Nothing makes us happier than sharing Saskatchewan history with eager learners from around the province and beyond. Yes - we welcome students from Alberta and Manitoba throughout the school year too!

One of our most popular programs at the WDMs Moose Jaw, North Battleford and Saskatoon is the Museum Days school program. Thanks to the help of our amazing volunteers and community partners, we offer a variety of curriculum-connected, hands-on activities. The program takes place over one or two days, depending on the location, and is open to school and homeschool groups only.

Educators, To learn more, scan the QR code and select the WDM location you're interested in visiting. Space is limited so we encourage you to register soon.

We're excited to welcome these community partners to the WDM for Museum Days:

WDM Moose Jaw

- New South Plains Métis Local #160
- Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – Regina Chapter

WDM Saskatoon

- Agriculture in the Classroom – Mobile Seed Survivor Bus
- Museum of Antiquities
- Persephone Theatre School
- Remail Modern
- Ukrainian Museum of Canada
- Wonderhub



Scan here to learn more about
WDM school programs



Cow milking at the WDM North Battleford

Thursday Evenings at the WDM Saskatoon

Did you know that the WDM Saskatoon is open late on Thursdays? The Museum galleries and gift shop are open until 8:00 pm. Admission is by donation from 5:00 – 8:00 pm.

From 5:00 - 7:30 pm, check out these drop-in demonstrations and activities:

- April 3 Morse telegraphy & blacksmithing demonstrations
- April 10 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- April 17 Model train & blacksmithing demonstrations
- April 24 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- May 1 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- May 8 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- May 15 Button making & blacksmithing demonstration
- May 22 Model train & blacksmithing demonstrations
- May 29 Model train & blacksmithing demonstrations
- June 5 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- June 12 Hands-on artifacts & blacksmithing demonstration
- June 19 Button making & blacksmithing demonstration
- June 26 Model train & blacksmithing demonstrations



Scan this QR code or visit
wdm.ca/latenightthursdays
 for more information about Thursday
 nights at the WDM Saskatoon



Dr. Frances Gertrude McGill

Canada's first female pathologist, director of the Saskatchewan Provincial Laboratories for 20 years and the first female member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as their honorary surgeon – these are all accomplishments of Dr. Frances Gertrude McGill. In September 2024, Dr. McGill was designated as a person of national historic significance by the Government of Canada. Despite this designation, many in Saskatchewan aren't familiar with Dr. McGill and her achievements in forensics and public health.

When Dr. McGill moved to Regina to start work as provincial bacteriologist, she likely never imagined the path her life would take. She was born on November 18, 1882 near Minnedosa, MB. At first, she trained and worked as a teacher before deciding on a career in medicine. She put herself through medical school at the University of Manitoba, one of the first three women to do so. She was an honours graduate and gold medalist for having the highest aggregate marks in her class. In 1918, Dr. McGill began work in the Saskatchewan Provincial Laboratory.

Dr. McGill spent two years as a bacteriologist, contributing to improved public health through vaccine development and efforts to stop the spread of sexually transmitted infections. In 1920, she became provincial pathologist where her knowledge and skill obviously impressed her supervisors. She was promoted to director of the Provincial Laboratory in 1922, a position she would hold until 1942.

In the early 20th century, there was no forensic laboratory in Saskatchewan, so the police turned to Dr. McGill to assist with suspicious and sudden deaths. She had a remarkable ability to piece together the elements of a crime using forensic evidence. Dr. McGill travelled across the province to perform post-mortem examinations and identify the cause of deaths, and to provide expert testimony in court. According to a 1955 Montreal Star article about Dr. McGill, "Her police work took her to the remotest parts of Saskatchewan, where she shared the hardships of the toughest Mounties, travelling thousands of miles by dog team, snowmobile and rickety float plane." Besides these trips around Saskatchewan, Dr. McGill was invited to share her knowledge with scientists and visit forensic laboratories around the world.

In 1937, Dr. McGill helped the RCMP establish their first forensic laboratory and provided training in forensics to new recruits. She retired from the Provincial Laboratory in 1942 and worked as director of the RCMP forensic laboratory from 1943 - 45. From 1946 until her death in 1959, she was a consultant and honorary surgeon to the RCMP.

As well as being recognized by the RCMP and the Canadian government, the Saskatchewan government named McGill Lake, located north of Lake Athabasca, in her honour. Dr. McGill is also in the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame.



Dr. Frances McGill

PHOTO CREDIT: PROVINCIAL
ARCHIVES OF SASKATCHEWAN,
GM_PH3302

Out and About with the WDM

Join the WDM this spring and summer as we're out and about around Saskatchewan. Here are a few places where you'll find us this spring:



WDM Moose Jaw volunteer Trevor Dean and summer student Alex Scidmore at the Mortlach Berry Festival, June 15, 2024

Yorkton Spring Expo

April 11 – 13

Children's Festival of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon

June 5 – 8

Mortlach Berry Festival

June 14

Moose Jaw Hometown Fair Parade

June 19

Saskatoon Pride Parade

June 22



Spot the Difference

C. This homemade fruit picker was made and used by C.E. Russell of Glaslyn. It is made from an old lard tin with a wooden handle attached. It was made in the early 20th century and used until 1967. WDM-1973-NB-3168

Liar's Club

The Western Red Lily is on page 11.



Search for the Saskatchewan Symbol

Brainbuster Answers

WDM MOOSE JAW

ARIES B Sounding Rocket Payload

WDM-1985-S-54

This is the original, refurbished ARIES B sounding rocket launched on February 27, 1984 from Churchill, MB as part of the National Research Council of Canada's upper atmospheric program. It was the last of over 60 rocket payloads designed and built by SED Systems at the University of Saskatchewan. The data gathered from 26 experiments on board this rocket provided a new understanding of the impact of the northern lights on weather patterns.

Sounding rockets did not go into orbit but carried their payloads to the edge of outer space. Once data was collected and transferred to scientists on the ground, the payload would parachute back to earth.



WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD

Bison Rubbing Stone

As glaciers moved across what is today the Canadian Prairies, they would pick up and drag rocks. As the glaciers melted, the rocks were left behind. Thousands of years later, some of the larger rocks were put to good use by bison who roamed the prairies. Bison would rub against these stones to scratch their hide and help shed their hair. They would often return to the same spot, rubbing the stone smooth and creating a depression in the ground around the stone.

In the 1960s, a rubbing stone was discovered near the North Saskatchewan River at North Battleford. Road construction threatened the stone so in 1966 it was moved to the WDM North Battleford where it could be preserved and displayed.



WDM SASKATOON

Polaroid Land Camera

WDM-1991-S-351

In 1948, Polaroid Corporation introduced the first instant camera - the Polaroid Land Camera Model 95. Unlike other cameras, it took a photo and printed it within a few minutes. Named for Polaroid founder Edwin Land, over 1.5 million were sold worldwide.

This camera is part of the Smith Camera Collection once owned by Les and Madelene Smith of Saskatoon. Les had a passion for photography. He worked as an Air Force and news photographer and owned L.J. Smith Photography. His desire to preserve old cameras led him to collect over 200 vintage cameras. In 1991, some of these cameras were donated to the WDM while the rest were auctioned with proceeds going to the WDM.



WDM YORKTON

Suitcase

WDM-2003-S-79

The first suitcases were introduced in the late 19th century, coinciding with changes in transportation as people began to emigrate across oceans and travel further for pleasure. Travellers sought lightweight travel bags to replace bulky trunks. Suitcases, like this one made of vulcanized fiberboard, became popular in the early 20th century as they were durable and lightweight.

In 1930, 18-year-old Margaret Urban emigrated from Cierna, Hungary to Prince Albert where she joined her sister who had arrived two years earlier. She still had the suitcase with her when she moved to Saskatoon in 1955. You can see Margaret's suitcase on display in the *100 Years of Saskatchewan History* exhibit.



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

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Closed statutory holidays



[WDM.CA](http://wdm.ca)



#SaskInspired



Canadian Forces Snowbirds promotional pamphlet, 1982
WDM-1994-MJ-98