



OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2025 • VOLUME 49, EDITION 4

# SPARKS

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM



## Preserving the Past

Caring for a unique collection

## WDM Education Programs

Kids get Saskatchewan-inspired

## Halloween Hijinks

Family fun at the WDM

MOOSE JAW

NORTH BATTLEFORD

SASKATOON

YORKTON



WDM.CA

# Here is What is Happening at the WDM

## WDM Moose Jaw

October 5	Firetrucks & Firefighters, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
October 14, 2025 – January 3, 2026	<i>Treaty Timeline</i> exhibit
October 24	Night at the Museum, pre-registration required
October 25	Halloween Hurrah
December 6 – 7	A Christmas Long Ago

## WDM North Battleford

October 25	Great Pumpkin Masquerade & Family Dance
December 1 – 31	Light Up The Village

## WDM Saskatoon

Through December 31	Thursday Night Demonstrations, 5:00 – 7:00 pm (except October 2 & 23)
Through December 31	Heritage Rug Hookers of Saskatoon, second Thursday of each month, 5:00 – 7:30 pm
Through December 31	Printmaking with the Saskatchewan Printmakers, first Saturday of each month, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
October 2 – 5	CUMFI's Métis Cultural Days *
October 21, November 18, December 16	Pop in and Play with the WDM
October 24 – 31	Spooky Stroll
October 25	Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market *
October 29	Boo Town Ball, advance tickets required
November 12 – January 4	<i>Once Upon A Christmas</i> Exhibit
November 22 – 30	Saskatoon City Hospital Festival of Trees *

## WDM Yorkton

October 4	Leathercraft Workshop, pre-registration required
October 14, 2025 – January 31, 2026	<i>Lii Buffalo: A Métis Way of Life</i> , a travelling exhibit from Arts and Heritage Foundation of St. Albert & Elk Island National Park
October 25	Ghoul Times

\* Not a WDM organized event

Events and dates listed here are subject to change. For details visit [wdm.ca](http://wdm.ca)



## Reasons to Celebrate

Dear Friends of the WDM,

As we move into the final months of the year, I am reminded of the many reasons we have to celebrate at the WDM and how deeply grateful we are for the people who make this work possible.

This issue of *Sparks* is filled with stories that reflect both our history and our ongoing commitment to sharing Saskatchewan's heritage in meaningful ways. We are pleased to recognize the years of service of our dedicated staff, whose commitment ensures that the WDM continues to thrive. Their work, alongside the efforts of our many volunteers, keeps our mission alive and our communities engaged.

We also look forward to sharing important learning opportunities, including school programs, our field trip contest and a piece on the *Treaty Timeline* exhibit that will help us better understand and honour the history of this land.

This season also brings cherished traditions and new experiences. At the WDM Yorkton, Celebrate Christmas Past continues its 25-year legacy, providing students with the opportunity to learn and explore the Museum. The WDM North Battleford welcomes the engaging travelling exhibit *Money In 10 Questions: Kids Edition* from the Bank of Canada Museum. I hope you'll take time to check it out while it's in North Battleford.

Intern Natasha Yokoyama-Ramsay has done excellent work on the preservation of the Hembrow Smith Collection. Thank you, Natasha, for your work on this project. You can read about Natasha's work in this issue of *Sparks*.

Thank you for being part of our WDM community. I look forward to welcoming you to our events and exhibits in the new year as we continue to share Saskatchewan's past, present and future with you.

Warm regards,

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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Development Museum

**On the Cover:**  
Checking out the Sask-made  
Lorch Snowplane  
(WDM-1994-S-132)  
at the WDM Moose Jaw

# In This Edition . . .

## 11 Celebrate Christmas Past

Learn about the engaging school program that's been a fixture at the WDM Yorkton for 25 years.

## 16 Preserving the Past

Behind every cracked glass plate is a piece of history. Discover how intern Natasha Yokoyama-Ramsay helped the WDM preserve the Hembrow Smith Collection.

## 21 Finders Keepers

From the Museums Association of Saskatchewan, the WDM is proud to be part of this documentary which discusses the importance of repatriation and the need for museums to support it.



## WDM Board of Directors

**Orlanda Drebit**  
Chair, Saskatoon

**Bernie Broughton**  
Secretary, Saskatoon

**Brianna Lobb**  
Regina

**Brian Martynook**  
Moose Jaw

**JayDee Mazier**  
Saskatoon

## Hours of Operation

**WDM Moose Jaw**  
Daily 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

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

**WDM Yorkton**  
Mon – Fri 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Weekends 12:00 – 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

**All locations** close at 3:00 pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

**All locations closed** on Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.



## 2025 Years of Service Recipients

The WDM recognizes and wishes to thank the following individuals for their generous years of service to the Museum.



Daniel Delaine, WDM North Battleford  
Bernie Janzen, WDM Saskatoon  
Dana Kuhmayer, WDM North Battleford  
Tiffany Kuhmayer, WDM North Battleford



Jamie Hein, WDM Saskatoon



Dianne Theaker, WDM Saskatoon

## Canada Strong Pass

From June 20 - September 2, the WDM offered discounted admission to youth as part of the Canada Strong Pass program. The Canada Strong Pass encouraged Canadians to “explore the richness of the country - from museums to nature to railroads.”

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support received from the Government of Canada in support of the Canada Strong Pass.

.....

Du 20 juin au 2 septembre, le WDM a offert un tarif réduit aux jeunes dans le cadre du programme Canada Fort. Le Canada Fort encourageait les Canadiens à « explorer la richesse du pays – des musées à la nature en passant par les chemins de fer. »

Nous remercions sincèrement le gouvernement du Canada pour le soutien financier accordé au programme Canada Fort.

Canada



# We Are All Treaty People

## Treaty Timeline Exhibit Launches at the WDM Saskatoon

On June 4, 2025, the WDM, in partnership with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC), hosted the launch of the *Treaty Timeline* traveling exhibit. Held in Saskatchewan Hall at the WDM Saskatoon, the event brought together Elders, dignitaries, educators, students and community members to celebrate a significant step forward in Treaty Education and Reconciliation for our communities.

The *Treaty Timeline* exhibit is a collaborative effort between the WDM and OTC, designed to provide a comprehensive history of Treaty-making in what is now known as Saskatchewan. The OTC curated the content and the WDM redesigned and produced this huge timeline. We also added a video and seating area for further learning and engagement opportunities on Treaty histories. The timeline flows like a river - symbolizing

the enduring nature of Treaties, which are meant to last "as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow." Through engaging visuals and accessible storytelling, the exhibit presents key milestones in the Treaty relationship between First Nations and the Crown, from time immemorial to the present day. It is suitable for learners of all ages.

The launch event opened with a prayer from Elder Sid Fiddler, followed by remarks from Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport Alana Ross, Treaty Commissioner Dr. Kathy Walker, WDM Board Chair Orlanda Drebit and Elder and Chief Marie-Anne Day Walker-Pelletier. A drum performance by Tyler Smallchild and a moving presentation by Oskāyak High School students Ian Ninnie-Van Veen, Kiaro Fraser and Rebecca Braun about the importance of Treaty education for their well-being and sense of belonging rounded out the speakers.

This exhibit supports the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #67, which encourages museums to work with Indigenous communities to share and tell these histories



Back row (L-R): Jennifer Altenberg, Oskāyak High School; Elaine Sutherland, OTC; Leah Arcand, Oskāyak High School; Elder Sid Fiddler, Waterhen First Nation; Elder and Chief Mary-Anne Day Walker-Pelletier, Okanese First Nation; the Honourable Alana Ross, Minister Parks, Culture and Sport, Government of Saskatchewan; Treaty Commissioner Dr. Kathy Walker, OTC; Joan Kanigan, WDM; Orlanda Drebit, Chair of the WDM Board of Directors

Front row (L-R): Oskāyak High School students Ian Ninnie-Van Veen, Kiaro Fraser, Rebecca Braun; drummer Tyler Smallchild, June 4, 2025



*Treaty Timeline on display at the WDM Saskatoon, August 28, 2025*



*Treaty Timeline with video and seating area*

collaboratively. As WDM CEO Joan Kanigan shared, "This exhibit is one step on a much longer journey. Treaty Education is critical to understanding our shared history, and this partnership with the OTC allows us to begin telling that story now."

While permanent Treaty-focussed exhibits are being developed at each of the WDM's four locations,, the *Treaty Timeline* pop-

up exhibit serves as an immediate and impactful teaching tool. It will travel across the province, bringing Treaty Education to communities and schools and fostering dialogue and understanding.

The launch event concluded with a Round Dance. The Round Dance reflected a shared commitment to learning, listening and moving forward together.

It was a great way to launch the timeline on its tour of the WDM.

WDM visitors, members, students and educators are all encouraged to visit the exhibit and engage with its stories. This is an opportunity not only to learn about the Treaties that shape our province but also to reflect on our role in Reconciliation and building more inclusive and tolerant communities.

Here's where you'll find the *Treaty Timeline* on display at the WDM:

### **WDM Moose Jaw**

October 14, 2025 –  
January 3, 2026

### **WDM North Battleford**

January 19 – April 10, 2026

### **WDM Yorkton**

April 27 – August 9, 2026



# Beyond the Classroom

## Exploring Saskatchewan Stories at the WDM

In our continued effort to provide engaging and accessible programming, the WDM offers Saskatchewan-inspired programming throughout the school year.

Unique to the WDM Saskatoon, Boomtown Shopping for Grades 3 and 4, Toys in Time for PreK and Kindergarten and One Room, Many Lessons for Grades 1 and 2, are three programs created by reimagining what many adults may remember as Christmas 1910 and Toys of Yesteryear. Toys of Yesteryear was a program that had students visit the schoolhouse and play with vintage toys while in Christmas 1910 students went on an imaginary shopping trip on Boomtown Street. These revitalized programs now run from September to June and emphasize key connections to the Saskatchewan school curriculum.

This fall, the WDM Moose Jaw unveiled a brand-new program for Grades 5 and 6, Wings and Wheels, which showcases the unique vehicles and aircraft within their exhibits. This program gives students a chance to engage with the history of the environment and transportation technologies in Saskatchewan through hands-on learning activities.

The WDM Yorkton fosters the holiday spirit in November and December through Celebrate Christmas Past, a charming Museum-led program that provides



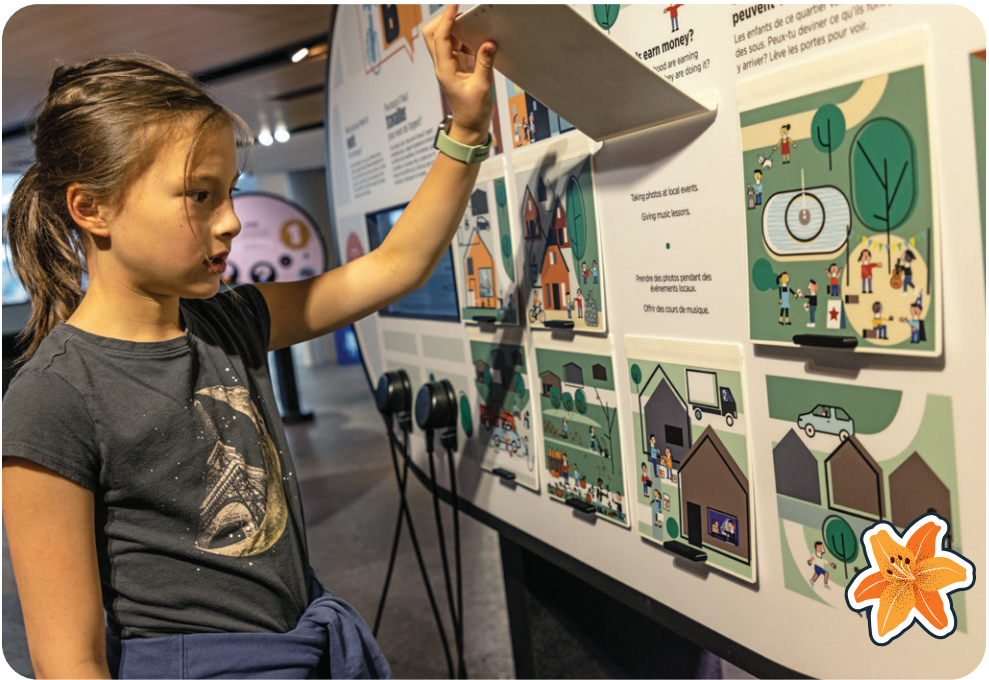
Exploring wings and wheels at the WDM Moose Jaw



an opportunity for students to learn about family traditions during the holiday season in rural Saskatchewan. This program fosters imagination and joy with wooden toys and wagon rides and offers perspectives on how we maintain traditions over time.

The WDM North Battleford is offering something new this year in partnership with the Bank of Canada Museum in Ottawa. *Money in 10 Questions: Kid's Edition* is a

temporary play-based exhibit that helps kids learn the basics of money and personal finance - and have fun doing it. This self-guided exhibit encourages students to reflect on their relationship with money - what their needs and wants are, how money drives our economy and how pressures from outside Canada can impact how we live. This exhibit is also open to the public and is included in general admission.



*Money in 10 Questions: Kids Edition* at the WDM North Battleford

## Thank You

The WDM gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Government of Saskatchewan, through the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, whose investment sustains much of the Museum's operations. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors, members, visitors and community partners whose continued support helps us preserve and share Saskatchewan's diverse heritage.

### At All Four WDMs

Human-Powered Ice Cream Making is a long-time favourite - and delicious - WDM program! The WDMs North Battleford and Yorkton offer Ice Cream Making as a hands-on activity you can add onto self-guided visits, enhancing engagement and creating memories for students of all ages. The WDMs Moose Jaw and Saskatoon recently expanded this activity to function as a stand-alone program. Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 students learn what ice cream is made of and how it was made before electricity was widely available, from milking a cow and separating the cream, to purchasing imported vanilla. Then, using a traditional ice cream maker and human power, they make their own ice cream to taste.

Once again, all WDM locations are offering Smarter Science Better Buildings. This program runs in partnership with the Saskatchewan Environmental Society and SaskEnergy. In this hands-on workshop, students explore the concepts of heat and temperature through the practical application of making our homes more energy efficient. The WDM Saskatoon has expanded the availability of this Grade 7 program from September to February.



Ice Cream Making at the WDM Yorkton

### Field Trip Contest

Our field trip contest is back! The contest runs until January 4, 2026. Thanks to a grant from the Saskatchewan Community Initiatives Fund (CIF), we are expanding the contest to include four chances to WIN a field trip and up to \$200 reimbursement towards the cost of transportation to one of our locations. Scan the QR code for details and to enter.

Last year's lucky winner was Mrs. Walker's Grade 1–2 class from Caronport Elementary School. Mrs. Walker is a long-time supporter of the WDM Moose Jaw. She has taken her class to participate in A Christmas Long Ago since the holiday program started in 2017. Mrs. Walker chose to do something new with her class and visited the WDM Moose Jaw in May for Museum Day. The warmer weather let her students experience a new aspect of the Museum, including outdoor activities, demonstrations and, of course, ice cream!



# Celebrate Christmas Past

A holiday tradition since 1999

“ We have been going to the Museum for a long time. We enjoy it a lot...the children love the tractor/ sleigh ride as do us staff. I think that is the highlight of the visit - because of the beauty and cold temperatures - it really is a blessing to be alive and breathe that cold, crisp air and be able to celebrate winter with our students in such a positive way. We do enjoy the inside activities as well and the treats - the astronaut juice is one we always talk about enjoying too. Thank you for your continued support for our preschool program here in the city of Yorkton and we hope to see you all in November!

At the WDM, we are extremely grateful to receive positive messages and encouragement from our supporters and visitors. Sharing Saskatchewan stories and creating positive experiences is what we strive to do. WDM Yorkton Programs and Volunteer Coordinator Jailyn Corbin was happy to receive the above message from staff with the Yorkton First Steps

Aboriginal Head Start Preschool Program about the WDM's Celebrate Christmas Past program. First Steps, which is a community-based organization that provides early childhood education and support services to young children and their families, had taken part in their 25<sup>th</sup> Celebrate Christmas Past program in November 2024. The First Steps



Yorkton First Steps Aboriginal Head Start Preschool in the Celebrate Christmas Past program, 2000



Yorkton First Steps Aboriginal Head Start Preschool on their wagon ride, 2019

PHOTO CREDIT: YORKTON FIRST STEPS ABORIGINAL HEAD START PRESCHOOL

preschool attended the very first Celebrate Christmas Past program in 1999 and, with the exception of 2020 when the program was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they've attended every year since. Although some changes have been made over the years, the

heart of the program remains the same – giving children the opportunity to explore the WDM to learn about settler life and traditions in Saskatchewan.

Celebrate Christmas Past grew out of activities planned around the Festival of Trees



Wagon ride volunteers Louis Lahosky, Greig Pearce and Brian Grunerud

when it was held at the WDM Yorkton from 1996 - 2003. Schools attending the Festival could take part in general tours and various activities. In 1999, a formal program was created for Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 6 which saw students go on a gallery scavenger hunt, make a craft, go on a wagon ride and conclude with cookies and juice. The Festival of Trees left the WDM Yorkton after 2003 but the Celebrate Christmas Past program continued.

From 1999 through 2024, the WDM Yorkton has welcomed 14,484 students in the program's 25-year run. Coupled with the teachers and adult chaperones, over 17,000 people have enjoyed the program. It's quite a milestone for this little program. The majority of schools attending the program come from Yorkton but we've also had groups from Theodore, Kamsack and beyond.

Today, the program has students rotate through three 20 - 25-minute activities – a tractor-drawn wagon ride, a craft and a gallery hunt followed by a snack and take-home treat bag. Three grade-appropriate crafts are available. Jailyne tells us "For preschool and kindergarten, we always make magical



wishing stars. If I had a nickel for every time I was turned into a frog or a chicken, I could take a Disney vacation.” The craft is followed by the story “Ten Christmas Wishes.” Crafts for older students change each year so students don’t end up making the same one if they return in multiple years. For preschool/nursery classes, we also offer a special theatre showing of the National Film Board of Canada film “Ludovik”, which is always a hit - one teacher even requests it every year.

The WDM Yorkton is fortunate to have a team of dedicated volunteers who help with the program, including the tractor drivers Greig, Louis and Brian, who faithfully come out on some of the coldest days of the year, ensuring that the tractor and wagon are ready to take excited students on a ride around the Museum grounds. Volunteers like Marij



Holiday crafts made at the WDM Yorkton

aid with organizing fellow retired teachers to assist in the craft room, while her husband Bernie helps bring the Museum galleries to life. Jailyne remembers Bernie having some fun with the students in 2023: “Bernie sat on the bench [in the gallery] and pretended to be a mannequin. It was hilarious when he ever so slightly moved position.”

As we move into our 26<sup>th</sup> year, we want to thank all of the WDM volunteers and staff who have made this program such a success over the years. And thank you to all of the students and teachers who have visited too. Did you attend Celebrate Christmas Past? We’d love to hear your story. Drop us a line and let us know what you enjoyed about the program!

Educators, are you interested in bringing your students to this program? Learn more by scanning the QR code or visiting [wdm.ca/celebrate-christmas-past](https://wdm.ca/celebrate-christmas-past).



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Email [engagement@wdm.ca](mailto:engagement@wdm.ca)  
for details and rates

# BRAINBUSTERS

## It's Quiz Time

How well do you know Saskatchewan? Let's see how you do on these multiple-choice questions about our province.

1. Which of the following is Saskatchewan's official fossil?
  - a. Triceratops
  - b. Centrosaurus
  - c. Edmontosaurus
  - d. Tyrannosaurus rex
2. Which of the following Treaty territories are located in Saskatchewan?
  - a. Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 & 10
  - b. Treaties 3, 4 & 6
  - c. Treaties 2, 4, 6, 7 & 8
  - d. Treaties 1, 2, 3, 8 & 9
3. The North Saskatchewan and South Saskatchewan Rivers meet forty kilometers east of which community?
  - a. Prince Albert
  - b. Melfort
  - c. Shellbrook
  - d. Star City
4. According to Tourism Saskatchewan, how many provincial parks and recreation sites are in Saskatchewan?
  - a. 15
  - b. 27
  - c. 39
  - d. 53
5. Which downhill skier is the only Saskatchewanian to win a medal at the Alpine Skiing World Championships?
  - a. Ken Read
  - b. Edi Podivinsky
  - c. Steve Podborski
  - d. "Jungle Jim" Hunter

## Did you know...

Stanley Mission's Holy Trinity Anglican Church is Saskatchewan's oldest building. A designated provincial heritage site, it was built between 1854 - 60. Lumber for the church was cut locally while hinges and other hardware as well as coloured glass for stained glass windows were brought from England. The only way to access the church is by boat or canoe.

That's a **Sask Fact!**

## Spot the Difference

One of the first buildings you'll see when entering Boomtown Street at the WDM Saskatoon is the Telephone Operator's House. By 1910, telephones were in place in many parts of the province. A small town's telephone switchboard was often located in the operator's home. Here we see the parlour or living room of the house on Boomtown Street.

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



## 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?



Answers on  
page 20.

# It's the Spookiest Time of the Year

Halloween is coming! Are you ready for it? Come on down to a WDM near you to get in on all of the family-friendly fun.



### WDM Moose Jaw

#### Night at the Museum

October 24, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Join us to hear about the WDM Moose Jaw's spooky history and haunted happenings. Pre-registration required. Must be 16+.

#### Halloween Hurrah

October 25, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Check out the photobooth, ring toss, web walkers and more. Collect stamps on your activity card to receive a treat bag.

### WDM North Battleford

#### Great Pumpkin Masquerade & Family Dance

October 25, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Dance up a storm at the family dance with a DJ. There will be costume contests for children, adults and families as well as Halloween-themed games and crafts.

### WDM Saskatoon

#### Spooky Stroll

October 24 – 31

Tour around Boomtown as it's decked out in spooky style for Halloween.

#### Boo Town Ball

October 29, 5:30 – 8:30 pm

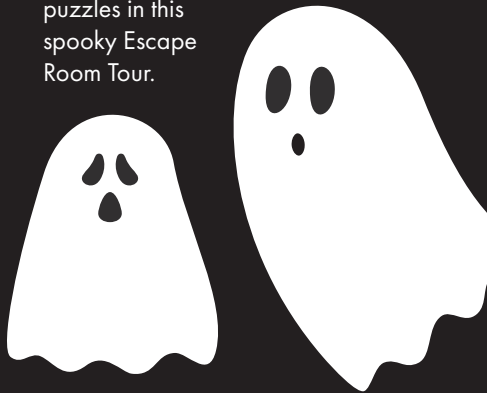
Enjoy games and activities galore plus entertainment from Singing with Sylvia. Tickets for this event must be pre-purchased online.

### WDM Yorkton

#### Ghoul Times

October 25, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Come in costume and join us for family-friendly games, crafts, tricks, treats and more! Don't miss our featured attraction - *Case Closed: The Dolls Awaken*. Some of the dolls have escaped their cases and it's up to you to help stop them before they take over the WDM! Explore the galleries and solve puzzles in this spooky Escape Room Tour.





# Saving Fragile Artifacts

## Preserving the Hembrow Smith Collection

Over the years, the WDM has helped a variety of student interns gain valuable experience while also benefiting from the skills of these students. Natasha Yokoyama-Ramsay, who is completing her MA in Film + Photography Preservation and Collection Management at Toronto Metropolitan University, spent the summer of 2025 at the WDM Curatorial and Corporate Services Centre, under the guidance of Chief Curator Dr. Elizabeth Scott. Natasha's internship focused on the Hembrow Smith Collection, a set of vernacular gelatin dry plate negatives, where she combined hands-on preservation work with research. The WDM is extremely grateful to Natasha for the work she has done on this important photographic collection. Read on to learn about this project in her own words.



Natasha Yokoyama-Ramsay in the Dr. George Shepherd Library

My graduate summer internship at the WDM brought me back to 1903, when Frank Hembrow Smith embarked on his voyage from Liverpool, United Kingdom to Saskatchewan, joining the Barr Colonists along with his camera. Instead of continuing his journey with the Barr Colonists, Hembrow Smith chose to settle first in Nutana and then homestead around the hamlet of Floral. His documentation of settlement with his personal camera provides us today with both the history of photographic technological evolution and the development of Saskatchewan itself.

I focused on Hembrow Smith's glass plate negatives, primarily gelatin dry plates and lantern slides, because they urgently required rehousing and further preservation. Lantern slides, often used for projection, tend to remain well preserved, whereas gelatin dry plates frequently exhibit cracking, emulsion loss and other forms of deterioration. Far from being a



Gelatin dry plate (negative)



Digitized dry plate converted to a positive image using Photoshop.  
Frank Hembrow Smith is seated on the left, shown in the positive image.

drawback due to deterioration, this material's fragility adds a compelling layer of history to each object, recording a history of handling, storage and care that provides tactile evidence of the past. Together, they record not only the story of photography but also the development of Saskatchewan itself.

## Project Goals

Recognizing the Hembrow Smith Collection's strong provenance and historical significance relevant to Saskatchewan, I approached the project with three primary objectives:

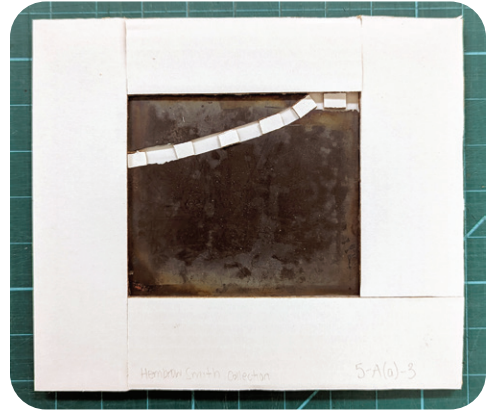
- Digitize the gelatin dry plate negatives, which are considered valuable primary sources.
- Rehouse lantern slides, dry plates, silver gelatin prints and artifacts according to their physical condition.
- Develop temporary data sets documenting inscriptions, image descriptions, finding aids and preservation notes.

## Methods and Process

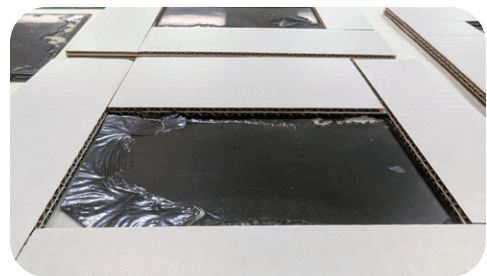
I approached this project with clear objectives and a strong commitment to sustainable preservation. Given the high cost of archival supplies, I constructed custom housings from archival-quality materials already available in the WDM's conservation lab. I systematically photographed each gelatin dry plate and created digital reproductions in both positive and negative formats. This ensured that the Collections team and future researchers can access the images while limiting the handling of the originals.

I then carefully removed gelatin dry plates with cracks, broken glass or emulsion delamination from unsuitable housings and mounted them

in sink mats, which provide stable physical support and protection. I also built a custom clamshell archival box to store the deteriorated plates horizontally, providing added stability. Lantern slides were rehoused in acid-free sleeves and archival boxes to shield them from dust, abrasion and environmental fluctuations.



Broken glass in sink mat



Emulsion delamination in sink mat

A new inventory was compiled to document all materials in the Hembrow Smith Collection. Each entry records the storage location, accession number (where available), material description, photographic process, inscriptions, condition notes, approximate dates and any digitized images. This work ensures that the collection is stabilized, securely rehoused and ready for future cataloguing and research of this incredible collection.

# WDM Gift Ideas

## My Saskatchewan Activity Book and more!

Looking for a great Saskatchewan stocking stuffer this holiday season? Pick up a copy of *My Saskatchewan Activity Book: From Lilies to Lacrosse* at a WDM gift shop near you. Created and published by the WDM, *My Saskatchewan Activity Book: From Lilies to Lacrosse* lets children cut, colour and play their way through Saskatchewan's history, plants, animals and traditions.

For more awesome gift ideas, stop by a WDM gift shop where you'll find a large selection of Saskatchewan-made crafts and food products, books, clothing, toys and more.

Still stumped about what to buy that special someone? How about a WDM gift card! They can be used at all WDM locations for Museum admission, in our gift shops and in the Boomtown Café at the WDM Saskatoon.

Don't forget that WDM memberships can be purchased as gifts as well. Happy shopping!



- Quiz Time**
- 1. D – Tyrannosaurus rex
  - 2. A – Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, & 10
  - 3. A – Prince Albert
  - 4. C – 39
  - 5. D – "Jungle Jim" Hunter from Shaunavon won bronze at the 1972 world championships

Search for the Saskatchewan Symbol



Brainbuster Answers

Spot the Differences



# ***Finders Keepers: The Spirit of Repatriation and the Role of Saskatchewan Museums***

## **A film from the Museums Association of Saskatchewan**

Repatriation in museums is defined as “the return of cultural property to their original owners, descendants or communities of origin.” *Finders Keepers: The Spirit of Repatriation and the Role of Saskatchewan Museums* is a new documentary that discusses the importance of repatriation and why it’s important for museums to support it. From filmmaker Sawyer Mayne Morris and presented by the Museums Association of Saskatchewan, this documentary film features interviews and conversations with Indigenous Elders and Saskatchewan museum professionals including Dr. Elizabeth Scott, the WDM’s Chief Curator – Director of Collections and Research.

While this documentary was created to provide support and perspective to museums across Saskatchewan, it also provides fascinating insight for non-museum individuals into why repatriation is important.

Throughout October, *Finders Keepers: The Spirit of Repatriation and the Role of Saskatchewan Museums* will be showing in our theatres at the WDMs Moose Jaw, North Battleford and Yorkton. If you can’t make it to the WDM, check out this excellent documentary on the Museums Association of Saskatchewan website at [saskmuseums.org/about/finders-keepers](https://saskmuseums.org/about/finders-keepers).



Dr. Elizabeth Scott in *Finders Keepers*

## **Help Preserve the Past for Future Generations: 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](https://wdm.ca/donate), or by phone at 306-934-1400 or 1-800-363-6345.

Scan the QR code on the right to go to our donation form.



### WDM MOOSE JAW

#### Smokejumpers

WDM-1975-S-347.2.A.B

Saskatchewan's Smokejumpers were a Canadian first. In 1947, this unit of elite firefighters was formed. They were the first to parachute into forest fire zones to contain fires and prevent them from getting out of control. They trained at the Prince Albert airport by practicing jumps and carrying heavy packs. Smokejumpers used the Norseman CF-SAM as a jump plane in the early 1960s until it was replaced by a deHavilland Otter. The Smokejumpers unit operated until 1967 when helicopters took over the job.

This smokejumper outfit and CF-SAM can both be seen on display in the *Aircraft Gallery*.



### WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD

#### Stork Man Carved Figure

WDM-1973-S-23125

With real buttons attached to a wooden topcoat and metal tabs affixed for coat tails, this creature is the creation of wood carver Harold Coombs, a farmer for half the year and a sculptor during the long winter months.

Born in England in 1883, Coombs immigrated to Saskatchewan settling west of Maymont where he planted more trees and shrubs than anyone else around. He decorated his farmyard with his carvings such as snakes and alligators hidden in the grass and monkeys and birds perched in trees. It is believed that when Imperial Oil Limited used a stork-like figure to advertise its products in the 1950s, Coombs was inspired to carve this imitation.



## WDM SASKATOON

### White Crow Petition

WDM-1983-S-360.3.A-C

For years, prairie farmers shipped grain to market for a modest cost thanks to the Crow's Nest Pass freight rate. The rate guaranteed farmers reasonable shipping rates through a deal between the federal government and Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR). In 1983, the federal government attempted to end the Crow Rate as the CPR said they were losing money. Farmers rallied, including a group in the Young area who started the White Crow petition. Twenty-two white, plywood crows were sent across the prairies for farmers to sign. Almost 16,000 signatures were gathered. The crows/petitions were presented in the House of Commons on March 28, 1983. This protest worked but the Crow Rate would eventually end in 1995.



## WDM YORKTON

### Claybank Brick

WDM-2009-S-37

Located in southern Saskatchewan, the Claybank Brick Plant operated from 1914 - 89. Using local clay, the plant had a reputation for creating high-quality firebrick and face brick. Claybank bricks were used in public buildings across Canada. In 1992, the plant site was donated to the Government of Saskatchewan through the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation. It is now a national historic site.

This Claybank brick was recovered from the site of Moose Jaw Providence Hospital after it was demolished in 1995. It is on display in the *100 Years of Saskatchewan History* timeline exhibit. Other Claybank bricks are on display at the WDMs Moose Jaw and North Battleford.



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## WDM Curatorial and Corporate Services Centre

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## WDM Curatorial and Corporate Services Centre Business Hours

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Closed statutory holidays



Royal Canadian Air Force flag, 1948  
WDM-1973-S-10060



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