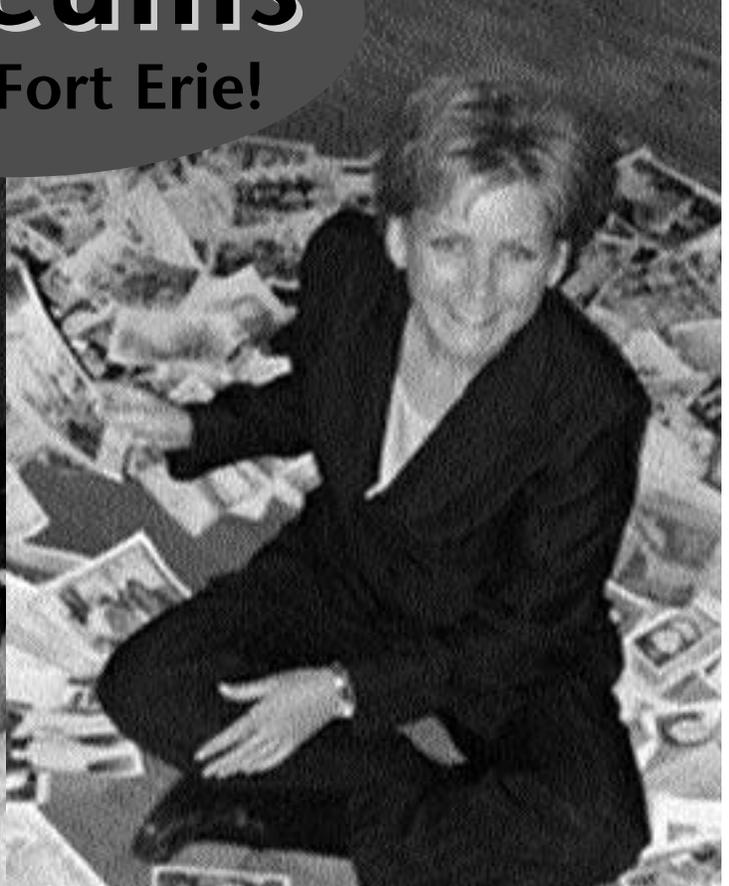
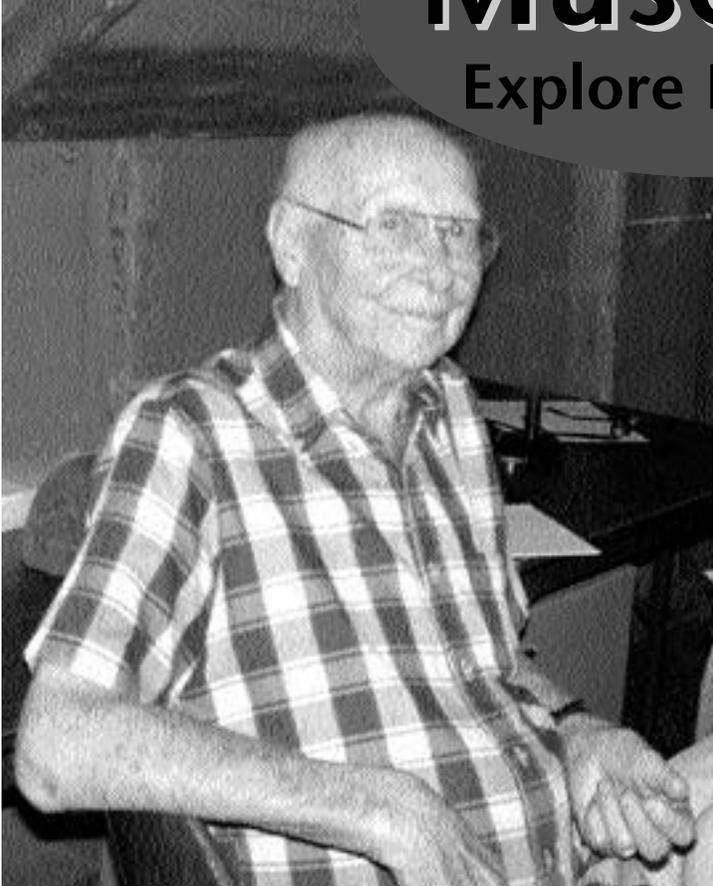
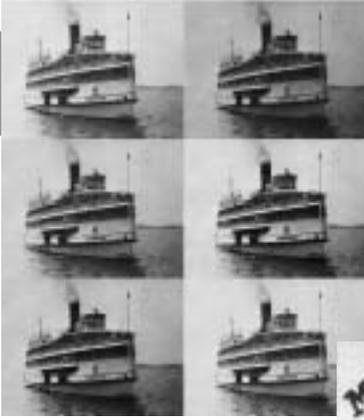




Museums

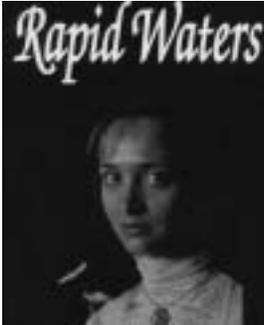
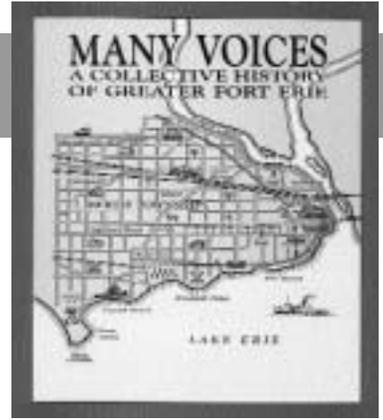
Explore Fort Erie!





Christmas Shopping

Avoid the last minute "tie or perfume" rush. Get that hard-to-buy-for person something unique this year — shop at the Historical Museum's Gift Shop!



We have Memories of Crystal Beach Park t-shirts @ \$13; Battle of Ridgeway cards, books and sweatshirts, from \$1 to \$18; Gramma and Me or Grampa and Me Memory Albums @ \$6; the archaeology book Legacy of Stone @ \$27; books by Earl Plato, Charlie Davies and David Owen; and a few copies of the first edition of Many Voices - A Collective History of Greater Fort Erie @ \$50. Located at 402 Ridge Road. Open Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm and Sundays 1 pm to 5 pm. No admission to shop!



Federal Wage Subsidy Grant

Thanks to a partnership between the Federal Government, Town Hall and the Bertie Historical Society, the Museum received a \$6,075 grant to do school programs.

Cal Bursey has been hired to design and run these programs from now until May 2003. Cal has 17 years experience doing programs at the Provincial Museum in Newfoundland.



Many of the curriculum objectives that teachers strive to meet focus on history and using community resources. The Museum's one-hour programs fill that need.

Grade 1-3 programs focus on Pioneers — with a different emphasis for each grade. Archaeology is featured for Grades 4-6 and the Fenians for Grades 7-8. These programs use artifacts and hands-on components. The cost is \$1 per student for a program delivered at the Museum and \$2 per student for a program delivered in the classroom. Call Cal Bursey at 894-5322 for more details.

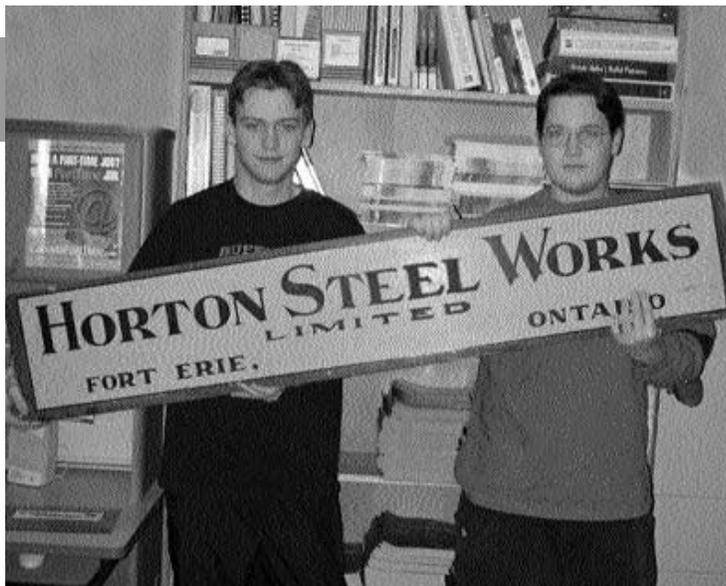
Historical • Daily 9-5 until Labour Day • Weekdays year-round

Co-op Students Ridgeway/Crystal Beach High

We read in the news recently that some high school students were finding it difficult to complete their 40 hours of mandatory volunteer time.

Not so for Robert McKay and Chris Beach who stop by the Historical Museum after school to help out. They have helped with moving, gardening and office management. Currently the Historical Museum has a large computer data-entry project that needs a lot of volunteer hours to complete.

If you know of any high school students, or anyone with an hour a week to spare, have them stop by the museum, Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, or call Jane Davies at 894-5322..



283 Ridge Road New Tenant

The Museum welcomes Lasting Impressions to 283 Ridge Road! Melody Simons, the "Gift Shop Guru" of Ridgeway leased space at the Museum's downtown facilities this fall. Rental revenues from this building go towards future capital improvements.



Ridgeway's Spirit of Christmas Dec. 6/7/8

The Historical Museum is decked out for Christmas just in time for the annual Spirit of Christmas Celebration in Ridgeway. The community Christmas tree will once again be located in front of the Museum. On Friday evening, Dec. 6, it will be lit amidst carolers and cocoa! Inside the Museum will be exhibits on festive decorations. See you there!





Sundays at the Museum

Wondering what to do on Sunday afternoons?

Stop by the Historical Museum!

Every Sunday from 1-5 pm we will be open from now until June 2003.

The newly expanded Archives is a great place to spend a Sunday especially exploring through the Times-Review's photo collection, and check out the new "Christmas Traditions" exhibit.

So, if it's a rainy or snowy Sunday afternoon, stop by for some "exploring"... you might discover a relative or two.

Regular Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm hours are still in effect.

Times-Review's Photo Collection

While exploring the Archives you might even find a picture of yourself!

The Times-Review's photo collection is now at the Historical Museum in order

for the public to have access to it. Over 6,000 photographs tell the story of what people have done in Fort Erie over the past 50 years. Putting names to these faces will make this collection an important resource for researchers in the future.

We all know of the frustration of coming across an old photograph without information written on the back of it. The story it could tell is gone forever ... who were these people, what were they doing, when did this happen, and where did this happen?

To all those who have come and continue to visit the Museum in order to identify these pictures ...

thank you! Your enthusiasm and persistence has resulted in the identification of about 4,000 photographs.

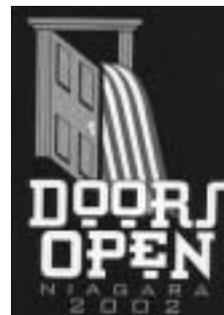


Doors Open Ontario

In October the Provincial Government sponsored an Open House to increase tourism along the border. The Railroad and Historical Museums combined this event with our birthday celebration

and 476 people visited the sites that weekend.

The winners of the 50/50 draws were Barb Carlson and Helga Bowman. Congratulations!



"We're Unique"

Why do some people choose to live in small towns?

A survey done by the Museum about Ridgeway showed that people valued its quaintness and uniqueness.

Suburbs and highways lined with strip-malls and big box stores are the same throughout the country.

Our small town feels different because it looks different — it is unique.

Architecture can have beauty, not just function. Trees and nature are valued as much as concrete.

While change is inevitable in the growth of a town, at some point, if you demolish too much, you risk losing uniqueness — the very quality that people value.

We estimate that 80% of the grand and beautiful architecture which made Fort Erie unique is now gone.

We are currently in jeopardy of losing the last stand of Carolinian forest and a significant Peace monument.

If you value these things, then tell our leaders that losing them is not an option. Progress can happen without losing our uniqueness.

John Maloney M.P. re: Marcy's Woods
1-800-463-2831

Tim Hudak M.P.P. re: Marcy's Woods
382-0322

Mayor Redekop re: Town's Official Plan
871-1600

Peace Bridge Expansion Project Team
1-888-275-3360

Built Heritage

As our community grows it changes and this fall we saw a flurry of demolitions. Buildings, the people who lived in them, and the businesses run out of them, are all part of Fort Erie's history.

Before they are obliterated from existence, the Museum makes a record of their "being" with photographs, site plans and in some cases, salvage work. All of this information is kept in the museum's archives.

One particular loss this fall was at 504 Ridge Road. This was one of the best "Victorian-trimmed" houses in Fort Erie.

If you know of any upcoming demolitions please contact Erin Wilson at 894-5322.



65 Queen St.



Prospect Point
Rd near Hibbard

411 Derby Rd.





Volunteer Profile

This section of the newsletter will profile some of the Museum's volunteers. Our first feature is the Fort Erie Museum Board. These dedicated members represent the interests of the community as they meet monthly to oversee the Museum's progress and make planning, policy and budgetary decisions. Board meetings are open to the public and are held the 4th Thursday, at 7 pm at Town Hall.

Front row, l to r: Laura Fair-Shulz, Chairman Bruce Cummings, Larry Williams
 Back row, l to r: Shawn Brown, Bill Kieffer, Gary Haines, Paul VanHezewyk and Axel Fair-Schulz



In honour of the Historical Museum's 30th birthday Mayor Redekop expressed "the community's gratitude to the founders for their commitment, passion and foresight. Fort Erie's history is what makes us unique. By preserving our history you have given us a strong foundation with which to build a proud community.

For that we thank you."

Honoured were Margaret Teal, Wilfred Teal, Bev Jewson, Ted Jewson, Jean Tripp, Ray Miller, Helen Sherk, James Grassie, Earl Plato and Ruth Ellsworth. The Museum Board commended Margaret Teal for initiating the original museum committee.

MAIL BEFORE NOVEMBER 1ST Remember to mail parcels for Christmas to the boys overseas and be sure to mail them in plenty of time and have them securely packed. See that your parcels contain no perisols

Expanded Public Archives

You asked. We heard.

In response to a need for more public research room we converted the area at the front of the Historical Museum into an Archives. In this well-lit area people can browse through reproductions of the museum's document and photo collection — all filed by topic.

Students, teachers, journalists, genealogists, authors and people who just love to reminisce can be found "treasure-hunting" in the Archives. Staff are available if you need help and there is no admission charge. Located at 402 Ridge Road. Open Monday - Friday, 9-5 pm and Sundays 1-5 pm.



Railroad • Daily 9-5 until Labour Day • Weekends until Oct. 13

Many Voices II

It's getting closer.

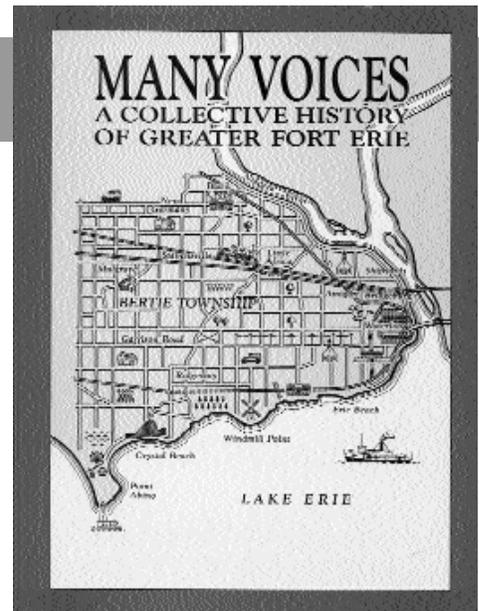
The next edition of Many Voices is at the pre-press stage. At least half of the photographs will be changed for this new edition — that's over 200 new photos!



Although corrections and additions to the text are done, it's not too late to make further changes. Call Joan Felstead today if you have a concern — 894-5322.

The pre-press work includes adjusting all of the photos to achieve a clearer image. A new cover is also being designed to reflect the new photo additions. The title, Many Voices, will remain since the stories inside are basically the same.

If the Museum Board can once again solicit sponsorship to cover the production and printing costs, we will be able to sell the book at a price somewhere around \$30. We are hoping for a book launch in April 2003. Pictured above is Anabelle Bright at the Hermitage Guest House in Crystal Beach. To the right is the Ridgeway Band.



Museums Memorial Fund

In honour of the Historical Museum's 30th birthday, the Town of Fort Erie established a Museums Memorial Fund. This reserve fund will be invested "in-perpetuity" with the interest used to support Historical and Railroad Museum projects. Donations to the Memorial Fund will assist the Museums for many years to come and all donations receive

a charitable income tax receipt. If you wish to make a donation in memory of someone — the Museum will send a condolence and acknowledgment card to the family and that person's name will be entered into the Memorial Book, located in the Museum's archives.

For more information about the Memorial Fund contact Jane Davies at 894-5322.

Seasons Greetings

On behalf of the Museum staff, volunteers and Board members, we extend to you and your family wishes for a safe and healthy Christmas season. Amidst all the turmoil we hope you have time to share some memories and make some new ones. Cheers!

