# MURNEY NEWS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 | OCTOBER 2020



# WHAT'S ON

The Murney Team is currently packing up for the winter. We are hiring a new Museum Assistant and we have been featured in a few recent publications.

# **REMOTE**

Staff is currently working off site due to Covid-19, but you can still reach us at: info@murneytower.com

# **OVERVIEW OF THE MONTH**

Hi friends! Museum staff is currently in the process of cleaning and packing our artifacts so that they can be moved into winter storage. Due to Covid-19, the museum cancelled the spooky October programming we had arranged from *The Phantoms of Yore*. However, we are fortunate to have four students this winter to assist with an overhaul of our collections storage.

The Tower is receiving a bursary from the Kingston and Gananoque Tourism Business Support Program through the

Kingston Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO). This program was created to help with COVID-19 recovery expenses for tourism businesses and nonprofits in Kingston and Gananoque. These funds will help the museum afford the PPE necessary to continue operations.

Queen's Engineering will also be helping us with a few projects this winter. For example, they will explore options for winterizing the Tower and potentially even create new display options. Our team is currently experimenting with one or two rifle ports this autumn.

# SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook:

@MurneyTowerMuseum

Twitter:@MurneyTower

Instagram:murneytower

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We would like to acknowledge two friends of the Tower who have received awards this fall for their contributions to our community. **Dr. Terri Lynn Brennan** (left) has been honoured with The Ban Righ Foundation 2020 Leadership Award from Queen's University. Terri created an exhibit panel for our museum last year sharing the Indigenous history of our space. This was the first permanent Indigenous exhibit panel of its kind in our community, produced by an Indigenous person with input from Indigenous leaders. Thanks to Terri's work the Tower is able to share this part of Kingston's history and culture with visitors from all over the world. Our friend **Kevin Fox** (right) from Parks Canada was honoured with the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. This award is Canada's highest honour for volunteers! Kevin has volunteered with the Kingston Association of Museums, Galleries and Historic Sites (KAM) for 38 years and the Storrington Minor Soccer Club for 25 years. Kevin has helped local museums for decades and we are grateful to him for his leadership in our museum community.

#### STAFF NEWS

We were sad to say goodbye to Museum Assistant **Emma Binns** this month. She spent the summer running our social media and planning 2021 programming initiatives. Emma reflected that even though this was not the job she was expecting due to Covid, she experienced more professional development from being a Museum Assistant than she would have as a Historical Interpreter giving tours. Thank you, Emma, for all of your hard work. We'll miss you!

We are looking forward to welcoming two new Museum Assistants to our team. **Amy Abraham** is a third-year history student who will be working with us from November to February. We are currently hiring a third Museum Assistant.



### **Articles featuring Murney**

Looking for more Murney Tower content? You're in luck! Earlier this summer, Murney Tower appeared in two *Kingston Local* articles, one featuring the museum's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday and one focusing on its founder, the Kingston Historical Society. We were also recently featured in an article by Peter Johansen in the magazine *Fifty-Five Plus*. The article focused on opportunities for "virtual trekking" using digital resources, such as Murney's 360-degree virtual tour. The links to all of these articles can be found on our social media pages. We also hope to have another feature soon! Our Curator recently spoke with freelance travel writer, Vanessa Chiasson, for an upcoming story on Martello Towers!







Murney Tower acknowledges with thanks the continued support of the City of Kingston, the Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites, and the Kingston Historical Society.