MURNEY NEWS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER





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May was an important month at the Murney Tower Museum! The month began full-speed with staff orientation and training. Our summer team members, Alexa, George, Jago, and Emma started their summer employment with an extensive two-week staff orientation and training, which included guided tour practices, presentations, visitor service training, exhibit installation and mounting. Our team also had a chance to visit other Kingston Museums and Heritage Sites including the Bellevue House, SS Keewatin, Kingston Penitentiary, Pumphouse Museum and the Museum of Health Care to increase their knowledge of Kingston's history and heritage. At each site, we were welcomed with great care and enthusiasm. We want to thank our colleagues and friends for having us! After extensive training and preparation, the museum finally opened its doors to the public for its 99th operating season and had a successful opening weekend with approximately 600 visitors. It was great to see so many enjoy the guided tours, permanent exhibits, and our exclusive pop-up exhibit, which is currently on loan by the Museum of Health Care and showcases surgical practices during Murney Tower's time in use from the 1840s until the 1880s. We have also been very excited to share our new French audio tour, interactive exhibits, and iPad stations, which seem to be a hit with the public already!











SOFT OPENING EVENT

On the 16th of May, we gathered with our colleagues, collaborators and heritage and tourism partners at the Murney Tower Museum to celebrate the beginning of our 99th operating season. The event included remarks by Peter Gower of the Kingston Historical Society, the announcement of our Centennial Initiative and "Love Murney" campaign, and a virtual appearance from Kingston and the Islands MP, Mark Gerretsen! We would like to thank our colleagues, friends, and partners from Kingston Tourism and Heritage Sector for attending our soft opening event and celebrating the beginning of our operating season with us. We had an incredible time celebrating our museum with you and are truly grateful for such a wonderful and supportive community!

KINGSTON REGIONAL HERITAGE FAIR

May 10th marked this year's Kingston Regional Heritage Fair! This annual event connects students with heritage organizations around Kingston to celebrate all their hard work on their heritage projects. We were able to introduce our brand new card game, Murney Spy, to over 250 students! It was created by our spring interns, Alexa, Eva and Roxanne and curator, Simge Erdogan-O'Connor, and it was a huge hit! The game gave each student a role from Murney's history, including an American soldier. They worked together to discover the American spy before everyone got captured! Students loved being detectives while learning about our history. Simge was honoured to present awards to students later that day on behalf of the Kingston Historical Society for their heritage projects.





MODERN FUEL ARTWORK

Finally, as of May 25th, there has been an exciting artistic journey unfolding at Murney Tower Museum. In collaboration with the Modern Fuel Art Gallery, we are hosting "Space Craft Parking Here," a captivating installation by local artist Elyse Longair. As part of its journey, "Space Craft Parking Here" will be displayed on various local flagpoles across Kingston, with a special feature at Murney Tower Museum until June 14th. Visitors will be greeted by a whimsical flag that boldly declares, "Spaceship Parking Here." To complement this playful display, there are parking passes at our staff desk that visitors can hang in their cars, transforming a simple visit into an immersive experience. We would like to thank Elyse for sharing her artwork with our visitors!