

# Wolfville Historical Society

**Spring 2018**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 18 Issue 1**



## **Wolfville 125**

*Join us on July 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00PM at Waterfront Park where we will recreate this photograph that was taken 25 years ago during our centennial celebrations in 1993! Do you recognize any familiar faces in the crowd? (Magnifying glass required!)*

## **President's Message**

### **Welcome to the New Season!**

As our preparations at Randall House pick up speed in anticipation of Opening Day (May 26<sup>th</sup>), this may be a good moment to consider some of the changes, both immediate and on the horizon, that will make life exciting for us for some time to come.

First off, I am delighted to report that we have at last found some storage space, just up the road at the Canadian Legion Hall. As many of you know, we have rented space from the Legion in the past, so it's gratifying to cement our relationship in this way – not to mention the convenience of their building being so close. This of course means that we will soon have significantly more exhibit space in the museum in which to tell the story not just of Wolfville but of our surrounding communities as well.

We are also re-organizing our gift-shop to provide a range of items that will catch the eye of visitors wanting to take away some small memento of time spent here, not least because this year -- Wolfville's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday -- represents a milestone for our whole community.

Talking of the Town, I should add that we are pleased to have entered into a Strategic Partnership with the Town of Wolfville, one consequence of which is a \$10,000 annual grant in support of the museum. We are proud of the growing contribution that both the Historical Society and the museum make to the cultural life of our town, and feel sure that this partnership will further enrich the experience of resident and visitor alike.

I hope you will take the opportunity to pay Randall House a visit (or two) during the summer; come for tea on Saturday, join us for the Canada Day barbecue, check out the changes taking place in the museum!

*Martin Hallett*



### **Adopt-a-Soldier**

Wendy Robicheau, archivist at Acadia University has launched her project, Adopt-a-Soldier, to bring community members together to tell the stories of over 600 Acadia staff and students who served in the First World War. Anyone can choose a person from our list who might be related to them, or they can choose someone at random. The volunteer is given help and guidance with their research.

The purpose of this project is to have community members take on the task of uncovering these individual stories, focussing on their Acadia and wartime experiences. Once every individual has been researched, a commemorative book will be published to include a short biography and photograph of each person.

This project gives anyone a chance to uncover stories that have been hidden for a hundred years. To date, 90 individuals have been adopted, and many more are waiting for you to answer the call.

*Sarah Atkinson*

### **Randall House Workshop Series Summer 2018 (Confirmed)**

Bookbinding with Ruth Legge.

Monday June 18<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 p.m

Rug Hooking with Lynn Denney

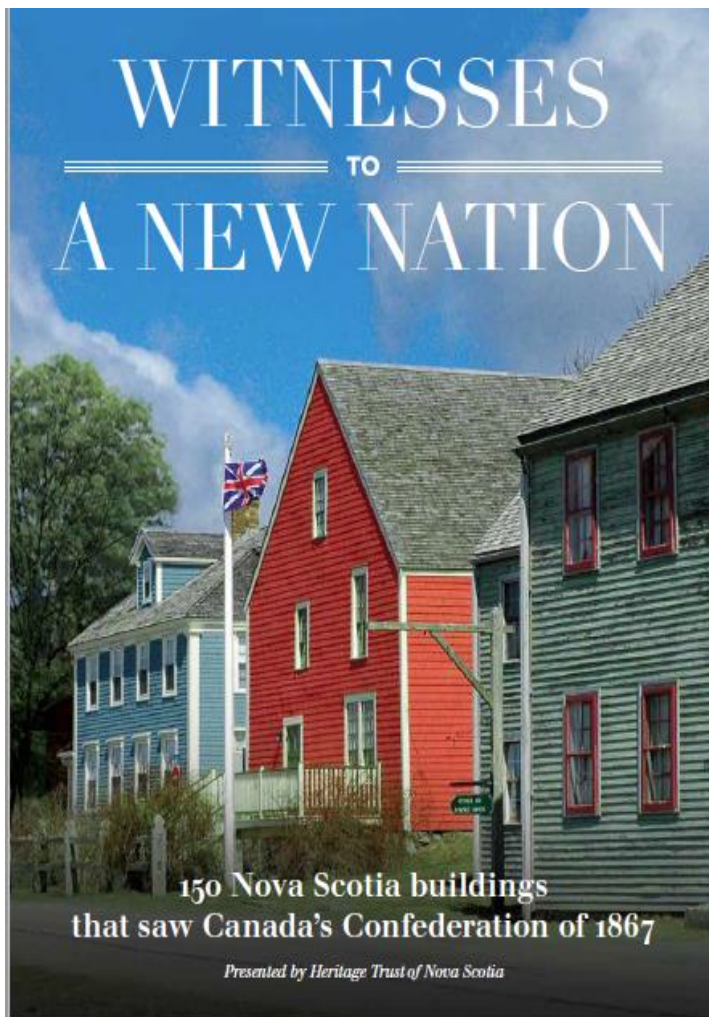
Monday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

Floral Arrangement with Amanda Muis Brown

Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>

**Stay posted for additional workshops!**





Last fall many of you will have visited the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia's Canada 150 picture exhibition "Witnesses to a New Nation" when it made a stop at the Kings County Museum in Kentville. This June the Trust will publish the book which grew out of that exhibit by popular demand. It provides a permanent record of just some of the hundreds of beautiful and historic buildings all over Nova Scotia that were standing when Confederation took place in 1867, and is a gem for your own bookshelf or for visitors from away. The book will be available in bookshops or by order from Heritage Trust with a local pick-up point. The cost is \$29.95.

Each individual entry has a detailed history of the building with a full colour photo. The task of selecting from the hundreds of buildings which qualified for inclusion was monumental but you will find that a few have now been added to the book that were not in the travelling exhibit. Our Society historian and an expert on local architecture, John Whidden, has submitted a new entry for the Georgian period Prescott House in Starr's Point.

*Heather Watts*

### **Wolfville Is Where It's At!**

Since the early months of 2018 WHS Board Member Wendy Elliott and I have been involved with the Wolfville 125 Planning Committee formed to plan celebratory events for the upcoming year. We join Marianne Gates and Nick Zamora from the Town of Wolfville and Lis Porter, Patrick Kelly, and Wes Booth of the Wolfville Business Development Corporation.

On Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> we kicked off our yearlong celebration with an event at the Wolfville Farmer's Market with Jerome the Gravekeeper, who took time from his busy grave-keeping schedule, to be our Master of Ceremonies. Participants joined us in a smudging ceremony performed by Acadia University student Kayla Mansfield-Brown/Dancing Deer. We were also delighted to offer some poetry readings, special musical performances by Alan Slipp, pianist Graham Howes, and jazz vocalist Jade Johnson, and a domino display that took over 4.5 hours to build.

One of the Wolfville 125 projects that I played a role in was the *Wolfville Where It's At* video that uses a combination of narrative as well as archival and contemporary photographs to help tell the story of our community. Wes Booth, who wears multiple hats for the Wolfville Business Development Corporation and as the Marketing Director for Canopy Creative, was pivotal in the creation of this video which has been viewed over 100,000 times!

The positive reactions that we received after showing the video speak to the love that people have for Wolfville. When I first saw the video a tear came to my eye and even after watching it countless times it still brings a smile to my face. It has got me thinking about why it is that I love Wolfville so much. I think it's for a lot of reasons: our sense of community, the bustling farmer's market, the incredible local music and art scene, the food, the museum of course, the university, the library, and our local boutiques are just things I can think of off the top of my head. What is it that YOU love about Wolfville?

*Krystal Tanner, Curator Randall House Museum*



Celebrating 125 Years of Incorporation 1893 - 2018



The Town of Wolfville turns 125 years old this year, so let's celebrate!

## MARCH 25 - Opening Celebrations 2PM @ Wolfville Farmers' Market

### Upcoming Events

A Commemorative Art Project is also planned for this year - exact date TBD



#### MARCH 16 - 29

WBDC Wolfville Business Special: Many have 12.5% off



#### MARCH 29

WBDC Wolfville 125 Business Basket Draw



#### MAY 21 - OCT 15

Randall House Wolfville 125 Display: Wolfville Model & Other Historic Displays



#### JULY 1

Re-creation of the 1993 Town Photo 3PM at Waterfront Park



#### JULY 27 - 29

Special Mud Creek Days



#### DECEMBER 31

Say Goodbye to 125, A New Year's Eve Social & Dance



Don't forget to keep up with the Town through Facebook & Twitter!



HAVE  
QUESTIONS?

Call us at 902-542-0368 or check out the Wolfville 125 website:

[www.wolfville.ca/wolfville-125.html](http://www.wolfville.ca/wolfville-125.html)

## SOMETHING SPECIAL IS COMING



This summer Lightfoot & Wolfville Vineyards will begin offering a special label "Wolfville 125" branded wine. Also starting this summer, Annapolis Cider Company will begin offering a "Wolfville 125" cider on their "Something Different" tap.