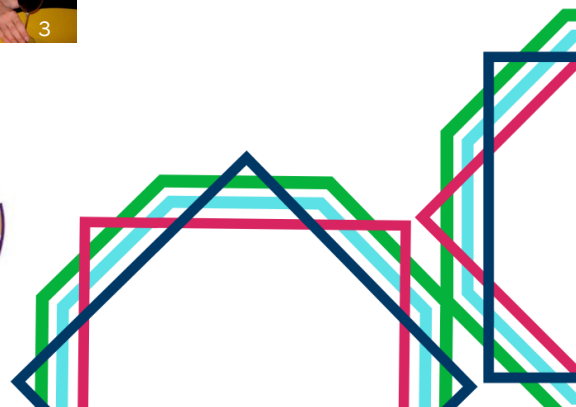


# NET(WORKS) BENEFIT

Annual Conference 2019  
October 23-25, Brantford, Ontario

Full Conference Program

In Collaboration with the Brant Museums & Galleries Association





Photos: Brantford Tourism & Bell Homestead National Historic Site



We would like to acknowledge that this conference will take place on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty. The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and for the faces yet to come. We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

## Conference Theme: Net[works] Benefit

Get ready for the future! A focus on innovation, experimentation, and learning allows **networks** to invite a diversity of perspectives and encourages peers to share responsibility, take initiative, and act. Networks serve to connect stakeholders with each other and with experts on issues to develop a strategy, respond to a rapidly changing landscape, and successfully **drive change**.

## Brantford, County of Brant, & Six Nations of the Grand River

The City of Brantford, the County of Brant, and Six Nations of the Grand River offer a place where the sceneries are breathtaking and the activities are endless. With a richly intertwined history and many successful projects and collaborations, these communities welcome everyone to experience all that they have to offer while making grand memories.

A city where 15% of the workforce is employed in cultural industries, Brantford is uniquely positioned at the centre of a number of different cultural communities. The OMA Conference will explore the many sides of Brantford and surrounding communities with Pre-Conference Study Tours, the Opening Reception, guest speakers, and more!

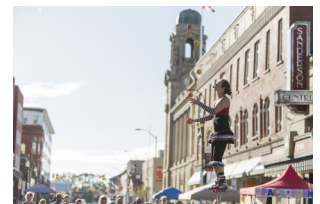


Photo: Brantford Tourism

## Walk Away a Winner!



Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant.

Photo: Brantford Tourism

- **Win Registration to the OMA Annual Conference 2020!** Submit the completed Evaluation Form in your delegate bag to the Registration Desk by 4pm on Friday to be entered into the draw!
- **Passport to Prizes:** Win a prize package from the Exhibitors by visiting all the exhibitors listed in the Passport to Prizes in your delegate bag, and entering it into the draw at the Registration Desk. Prizes include Chocolate!
- **Silent Auction:** Bid on a great selection of incredible silent auction items on Thursday! The Auction closes at 7:30pm during the Awards Gala Dinner.



# See & Do More at Conference

## Wednesday, October 23

### Opening Reception at Six Nations Polytechnic, Ohsweken Campus

Opening Reception is included in all FULL Registrations!

Kick off the conference with a meet and greet on the traditional territory of the Six Nations of the Grand River.



*Thank you to our partner!*



**SIX NATIONS**  
POLYTECHNIC

*Delegates at the 2018 Conference Opening Reception*

## Trivia Night

Hosted in collaboration with the Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals Committee (GOEMP), test your Ontario knowledge and enjoy a fun evening with the sector's up-and-comers.

This event is open to *all conference delegates* and is a great way to meet with other museum professionals in a casual setting! It's also an ideal Conference Connections meet-up time and place!

*Thank you to our partner!*



## Thursday, October 24

### OMA Awards of Excellence Gala & TOTAL Karaoke Dance Party

Celebrate excellence in Ontario's Museum community.

Gala included in all FULL Registrations (except for Student Registrations)

*Thank you to our partner:*

**TOTAL** | FINE ARTS

A DIVISION OF TOTAL TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS INC.

Cover Photos: 1. C. Hutchison; 2 & 3. J. Kent; 4. S. Gillies; all others: Brantford Tourism



*Moose: Charles Pachter*

# Schedule at a Glance—Thursday, October 24

8am start	Conference Registration Opens (Until 6pm)		
8am start	EXPO Open (Until 6pm)		
9-9:45	Conference Opening		
9:45-10:30	Keynote: Rick Hill <i>Sacred Trust between Museums and Indigenous Peoples</i>		
10:30-11	Networking Break with Exhibitors		
	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Grand Ballroom</i>	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Breakout Bell Hillier Room</i>	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Breakout Wayne Gretzky Room</i>
11:00 start	<b>Museums as Medicine? Exploring the Healing Potential of Cultural Spaces</b> (45 minutes)	<b>Ideation: a Session to Generate Content Ideas from an Ad-hoc Network</b> (60 minutes)	<b>Networking on the Road to Reconciliation</b> (60 minutes)
12:00-1:00	Lunch—Join a roundtable to discuss various topics in the sector		
1:00 start	<b>Embracing Tourism: Cheeses, Barn Quilts, and Beyond</b> (60 minutes)	<b>Finding Hazel: Tragedy, Community, and Education</b> (45 minutes)  <b>Meeting People Where They're At: Creating Opportunities Through Engagement</b> (30 minutes, starting at 1:50)	<b>March of the Museums: Collaborative Outreach within the Museum Sector</b> (45 minutes)  <b>Networking in the Digital Economy</b> (30 minutes, starting at 1:50)
2:00-2:45	Networking Break with Exhibitors <i>Thank you:</i>		<b>TOTAL   FINE ARTS</b> <small>A DIVISION OF TOTAL TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS INC.</small>
2:45 start	<b>Engaging Schools, Connecting Community, and a Mobile Museum</b> (45 minutes)	<b>Learning By Touch: When Breaking the Glass Case is the Only Logical Choice</b> (45 minutes)	<b>Teaching and Doing Public History: Brantford and Beyond</b> (45 minutes, starting at 2:55)
3:45-4:30	Indigenous Matters Heather George, SM Leduc, Feather Maracle, Petal Furness (45 minutes)		
4:30-6	Reception With Exhibitors		
6-9	Awards of Excellence Gala  		
9pm-12am	<b>TOTAL   FINE ARTS</b> <small>A DIVISION OF TOTAL TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS INC.</small>	TOTAL Karaoke-Dance Party 	

Unless otherwise indicated, the views expressed by any participant at any activity organized by the Ontario Museum Association (OMA) reflect the opinion of the specific participant, and do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the OMA. Participants are expected to be constructive, respectful, and professional in their engagement at OMA events.

# Schedule at a Glance—Friday , October 25

7:30am start	Canadian-Themed Breakfast Served, Thank you: Conference Registration Opens (Until 3pm)			
8am	EXPO Open (Until 4pm)			
8-9	Ontario Museum Association Annual General Meeting			
9-9:45	Museum Impact Survey and Modernizing Community Museum Funding Working Group			
9:45-10:15	Networking Break with Exhibitors			
10:15-11:00	Keynote: Thanh Sinden, Museum Detox <i>What works is Networks: Power to change—Museum Detox</i>			
11:00-11:15	Ignite Sessions  Experimenting with Interpretation in a Museums Experiential Learning Course Ten ways to Build a Network of Teacher Advocates			
	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Grand Ballroom</i>	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Breakout Bell Hillier Room</i>	<i>Sessions in this column are in the Breakout Wayne Gretzky Room</i>	
11:25 start	<b>Sparkling Joy: A Practical Guide to Collections Sanity</b> (30 minutes)	<b>Igniting Connections: Facilitating Community Networks and Narratives</b> (45 minutes)	<b>Documenting the Intermaterial Collaboration within Object Networks</b> (30 minutes, starting at 11:40)	
12:10-1:00pm	Lunch—Join a roundtable to discuss various topics in the sector <i>Thank you:</i>			
1:00 start	OMA at the Association of African American Museums Conference Cheryl Blackman, Asheda Dwyer, Shelley Falconer, Kelley Swift Jones (50 minutes)			
1:50-2:25	Ice Cream Break with Exhibitors. <i>Thank you:</i>			
2:15 start	<b>Confessions of a Museum Professional—Part II</b> (45 minutes)	<b>Character Sketches, Body Image Awareness Exhibition/ Education Program</b> (60 minutes)	<b>Preserving Tragedy: Negotiating the Collecting of Spontaneous Memorials</b> (45 minutes, starting at 2:30)	
3:15-4:00	Keynote: Alberto Garlandini <i>ICOM: Museums have no borders, they have a network</i>			
4:00-4:30	Conference Closing (Draw for Prizes!)			

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## Working with your Community for Inclusive Interpretation

Find out how historic and current community relationships play into inclusive museum practice and interpretation through visits to **Brantford Public Library**, **Bell Homestead National Historic Site**, and **Woodland Cultural Centre**.



## Small & Rural Museum Networks

Small and rural institutions are networking in a variety of ways! Visit **Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead**, the **South Dumfries Historical Society & St. George Museum**, and sample some cider at **Howell Road Cider Co.**



## Tentsitátken – We Will See Each Other Again

The tour will examine how the past of the Haudenosaunee plays a big part in how the communities on Six Nations are shaping our future for the faces yet to come through visits to **Kayanase Longhouse and Greenhouse**, **Chiefswood National Historic Site**, and **Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks**.

Learn more and register online at [bit.ly/StudyTours2019](https://bit.ly/StudyTours2019)

*Accessibility varies by tour and by site. Please visit the OMA website to see accessibility details for each tour and inform the OMA of your accessibility requirements as soon as possible.*

*All Study Tours are subject to change and cancellation.*

## Indigenous Matters

*Heather George, SM Leduc, Canadian Museums Association; Feather Maracle, Six Nations Public Library;  
Moderator: Petal Furness, OMA President, Grey Roots Museum & Archives*

**Thursday, 3:45-4:30, Grand Ballroom**

In 2019, where do museums and other GLAM sector organizations find ourselves in our work toward reconciliation and decolonization of our practices? The Indigenous Matters panel will discuss current initiatives, from official responses to the TRC Calls to Action, to cross-disciplinary grass-roots organizing, to local and international projects.

## Museum Impact Survey and Modernizing Community Museum Funding Working Group

**Friday, 9:00-9:45 Grand Ballroom**

The OMA's Modernizing Community Museum Funding Working Group of four OMA Councillors will present recent research and strategic thinking. Starting with the Museum Impact Survey, the Group will share their findings and propose directions for the modernization of provincial museum funding.

## OMA at the Association of African American Museums Conference

*Cheryl Blackman, Museums & Heritage Services, City of Toronto; Asheda Dwyer, York University; Shelley Falconer, Art Gallery of Hamilton; Kelley Swift Jones, Simcoe County Museum*

**Friday, 1:00-1:50, Grand Ballroom**



In this session, Ontario delegates who had the opportunity to attend the Association of African American Museums annual conference in Mississippi last August will share their experiences and what they learned. They will highlight the benefits of Ontario museums participating in Black and African museum networks. The delegates will also outline how the employment of Black museology is integral to a more critical interpretation of the diversity and complexities of Black Canadian and African diasporic experiences, including the realities of anti-Black racism, past and present. The presenters will discuss how their learning and experiences will inform

their future work at their respective institutions and organizations through the exploration of three case studies: the challenges of exhibiting the African collection held by the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the interpretation of the Oro African Church site, and the need for a Black history and cultural space located in Toronto.

## NEW! Download the Conference App!

*Thank you to our partners:*

Create a personalized schedule by selecting concurrent sessions, explore speaker biographies, and connect with other attendees!

1. Open the App Store or Google Play Store
2. Search for and install "Attendify"
3. Open the Attendify App and type "OMAConf2019" into the search bar
4. Select the Event Page listed in the search results
5. Press the "Join" button at the bottom of the screen
6. Enter your email address & follow the instructions to create your profile and see the event details!





# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Rick Hill**

**Sacred Trust between Museums and Indigenous Peoples**  
*Thursday, October 24, 9:45-10:30 am*

Rick Hill will speak about a different type of Network - a connection to ancestral knowledge—in which the wisdom of the past can be understood through ongoing cultural practice, Museum collections, oral tradition, and academic scholarship.

Rick Hill started working in museums in 1973 and has had a life-long addiction to helping museums tell Indigenous stories more accurately, more effectively, and more creatively. He started as a research assistant at the Buffalo and Erie County History Society in Buffalo, NY, and ended as the Assistant Director for Public Programs at the National Museum of the American Indian of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, DC. Along the way, Mr. Hill worked at Indigenous cultural centres, including the Native-American Centre for the Living Arts, Niagara Falls, NY; and the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, Santa Fe, NM. He has been the visiting curator of numerous exhibitions in museums in the United States and Canada. Currently he is working on an exhibition of contemporary Indigenous art for the Art Gallery of Hamilton. Rick Hill is a member of the Beaver Clan of the Tuscarora Nation, residing at the Grand River Territory of the Haudenosaunee.

*\*all conference speakers and events are subject to change*

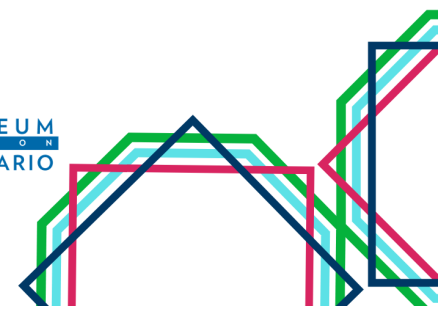


**Thanh Sinden, Museum Detox**

**What works is Networks:**  
**Power to change - Museum Detox**  
*Friday, October 25, 10:15-11:00 am*

The **Museum Detox** Network is a collective of BAME (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) museum workers founded in 2016 to effect a systemic challenge to the lack of diversity and audience representation in the museum sector. In 2019, Museum Detox continues to use a network model to enable a sector where diversity thrives, and a workforce and audience that is reflective of the UK's 21st century population.

Thanh Sinden is an independent museum consultant, and Chair of the Museum Detox steering group, where she champions fair representation and inclusion of BAME cultural, intellectual and creative contributions of past and present. At the OMA Conference 2019, Thanh will share some thoughts on the network's journey, where their impact has been, and where they continue to look to make change.





# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## Alberto Garlandini Vice President, International Council of Museums (ICOM)

Museums have no borders, they have a network.

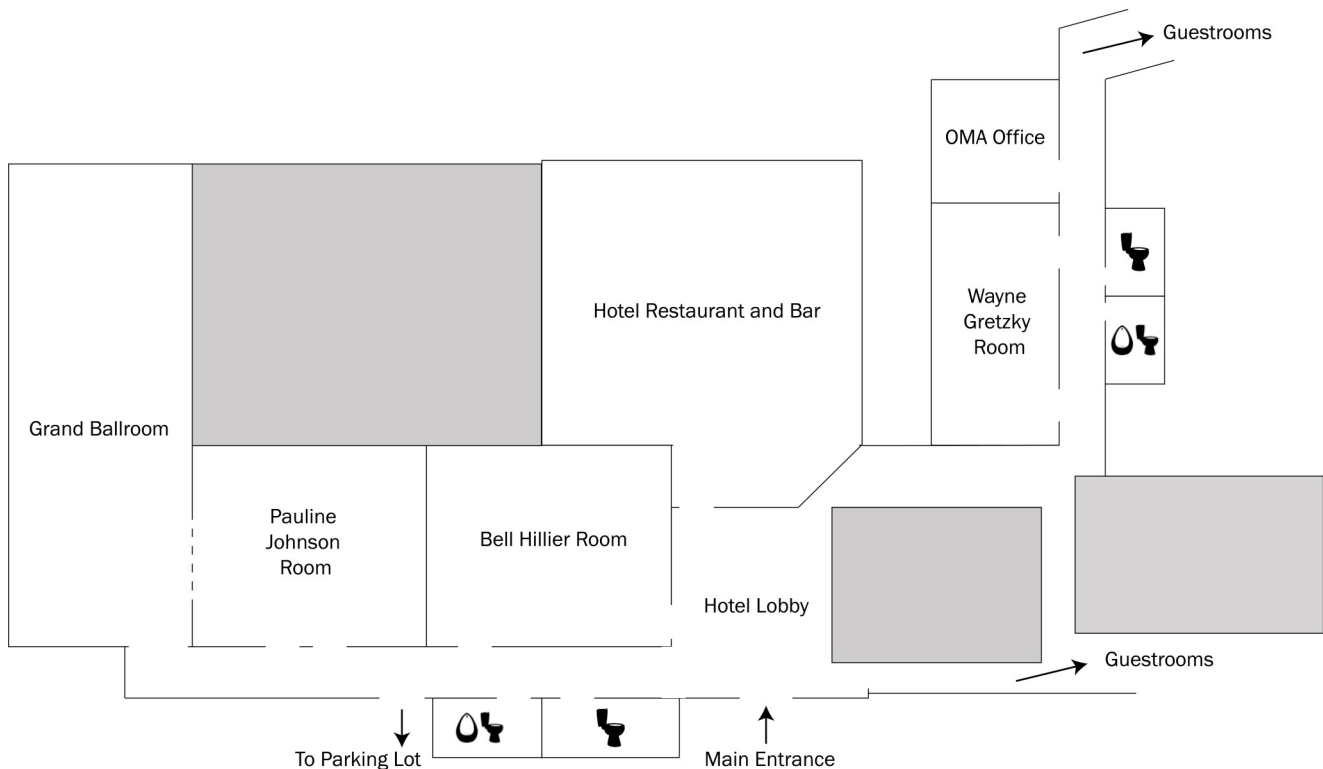
Friday, October 25, 3:15-4 pm

Alberto Garlandini is Vice President of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). Garlandini was a

member of the **ICOM Committee for Museum Definition, Prospects and Potentials**, and previously served as President of the Italian National Committee of ICOM. At the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he was a member of the National Commission for the promotion of Italian culture abroad, and was president of Lombardy's Film Commission Foundation. He has published over 180 books, essays, and articles on the topic of museums and cultural heritage in Italian, English, and French.

Alberto Garlandini will speak about international networks, ICOM and how 'Museums have no borders, they have a network.'

## Conference Centre Floorplan



\*Program subject to change

## Concurrent Sessions, 11am start

### **Museums as Medicine? Exploring the Healing Potential of Cultural Spaces**

*Christian Blake, Royal Ontario Museum; Sara Bhatti, Alliance for Healthier Communities*

**Thursday, 11-11:45, Grand Ballroom**

Can cultural spaces contribute to people's health and well-being? Are we overreaching to think so? Are museums already doing it?

Join us as we grapple with these questions (and more) by exploring the findings of a social prescribing initiative undertaken by the Royal Ontario Museum, and delivered in partnership with the Alliance for Healthier Communities.

### **Ideation: a Session to Generate Content Ideas from an Ad-hoc Network**

*Amy Hetherington & Peter Pavement, Surface Impression Canada; Anna Patterson, Dundas Museum & Archives*

**Thursday, 11-12, Bell Hillier Room**

When bringing together networks of people to collaborate on any project, how do you generate useful ideas from the network without it descending into chaos or being dominated by predominant biases? This session will introduce, and apply, a simple framework that will help with idea generation in a way that can be replicated in your own work.

### **Networking on the Road to Reconciliation**

*Sherry George & Laura Gosse, Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre; Kayleigh Speirs, Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre*

**Thursday, 11-12, Wayne Gretzky Room**

Through networking, the Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre joined forces with area organizations and First Nations educators – in particular Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre – to strengthen relationships among indigenous and non-indigenous groups.

**Lunch: 12-1**

\*Program subject to change

### **Statement from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport regarding the cancellation of the scheduled session at this year's OMA Conference, formerly at 12:50:**

"The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport is committed to continuing its support of the heritage sector and appreciates the important work that museums do to celebrate and preserve Ontario's rich heritage. The Ministry is currently determining its approach to reviewing existing heritage grants and will share more information in the coming months.

The Ministry is pleased to see the recognition of museum networks in this year's OMA conference. These organizations play an important role in today's heritage landscape, particularly in promoting collaboration, resource sharing and networking at the local level.

Ministry staff will be attending the conference and look forward to interacting with representatives from the sector."

## Concurrent Sessions, 1:00pm start

### **Embracing Tourism: Cheeses, Barn Quilts, and Beyond**

*Mike Baker, Elgin County Museum; Adrienne Carter, The Heart of Ontario; Scott Gillies, Ingersoll Cheese & Agricultural Museum*

**Thursday, 1:00-2:00, Grand Ballroom**

Learn how museums can engage in all kinds of networks to collaborate with tourism and reach new audiences.



Pauline Johnson, photo courtesy of the Brant Historical Society

## **Finding Hazel: Tragedy, Community, and Education**

*Anna Patterson & Robert Bell, Dundas Museum & Archives*

**Thursday, 1:00-1:45, Bell Hillier Room**

To mark the centenary of the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic, Dundas Museum and Archives, Dundas Central Public School, McMaster University, Knox Presbyterian Church, and many passionate individuals, worked together to provide resources, experiences, and support for students as they curated their community exhibit, "Finding Hazel: Who Was Hazel Layden?".

## **March of the Museums: Collaborative Outreach with the Museum Sector**

*Darragh De Groot, Museum of Health Care at Kingston; Danielle Marshall, Kingston Association of Museums (KAM) Committee; Miranda Riley, Royal Military College Museum*

**Thursday, 1:00-1:45, Wayne Gretzky Room**

This session will explore the Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites Programming and Community Engagement Committee's collaborative projects with a focus on March of the Museums to showcase how museums with separate interests and goals can come together to create a successful outreach event.

## **Meeting People Where They're At: Creating Opportunities Through Engagement**

*Sonia Mrva, City of Hamilton; Chris Ellis, MASS LBP*

**Thursday, 1:50-2:20, Bell Hillier Room**

This session will focus on the Hamilton Children's Museum expansion project and how new types of networks comprised of organizations outside of the common heritage and museum community can be created through a well-thought-out, flexible engagement process resulting in more robust ways to sustain inclusivity, empathetic programming, and other strategic opportunities.

## **Networking in the Digital Economy**

*Nathan Etherington, Brant Historical Society*

**Thursday, 1:50-2:20, Wayne Gretzky Room**

Learn about how the Brant Historical Society are becoming leaders in the digital economy. Topics covered in this session will include server upgrades, back up protocols, the initiative for the mass digitization of archives, and how we aim to share collections with communities across the province to build your organization's digital capacity.

## **Networking Break: 2:00-2:45**

**Thank you:**

**TOTAL** | FINE ARTS

A DIVISION OF TOTAL TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS INC.

## **Concurrent Sessions, 2:45pm start**

### **Engaging Schools, Connecting Community, and a Mobile Museum**

*Lydia Burggraaf & Kim Broadbent, Chatham-Kent Museum; Kelly Bachus, CKRecreation; Renee-Anne Paquette, Sturgeon River House Museum*

**Thursday, 2:45-3:30, Grand Ballroom**

Hear how two museums are reaching out to their broad networks in unique and inspiring ways!

A play-based case study with museum staff and representatives from the Chatham-Kent Museum's community partners explores the changes necessary to make more meaningful connections. Sturgeon River House Museum's Mobile Museum has allowed area schools to get a glimpse of the Museum and its history to encourage returned visits, increase attendance at events, as well as awareness, education, and fun!

**Get Social! #OMACConf2019**

@MuseumsOntario



\*Program subject to change



## Learning By Touch: When Breaking The Glass Case is the Only Logical Choice

Rebecca Blaevoet, *Tactile Vision Graphics*  
Thursday, 2:45-3:30, Grand Ballroom

This hands-on, interactive, presentation will examine the countless ways tactile graphics can be used to enrich the everyday lives and museum experience of vision-impaired people of all ages, and in so doing, enrich the multi-sensory learning experience of every museum visitor.

## Teaching and Doing Public History; Brantford and Beyond

Christina Han, Peter Farrugia, & David Oliver, *Wilfrid Laurier University*; Lillia Dockree, *Student*  
Thursday, 2:55-3:40, Wayne Gretzky Room

This panel explores creative ways of building networks between museums, communities, and post-secondary institutions in Ontario. The presenters will share their experiences of teaching and doing Public History at Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, and their collaboration with local, cross-cultural, and international museum partners.

## Plenary Panel: Indigenous Matters

Heather George; *SM Leduc, Canadian Museums Association*; Feather Maracle, *Six Nations Public Library*; Moderator: Petal Furness, *OMA President, Grey Roots Museum & Archives*

Thursday, 3:45-4:30, Grand Ballroom


In 2019, where do museums and other GLAM sector organizations find ourselves in our work toward reconciliation and decolonization of our practices? The Indigenous Matters panel will discuss current initiatives, from official responses to the TRC Calls to Action, to cross-disciplinary grass-roots organizing, to local and international projects.

Photos: Brantford Tourism








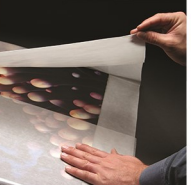



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Don't miss the Reception with Exhibitors, followed by the OMA Awards of Excellence Gala and TOTAL Karaoke Dance Party in the Evening!

**TOTAL** | FINE ARTS

A DIVISION OF TOTAL TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS INC.

## Annual General Meeting: Friday, October 25, 8-9am

Breakfast will be served from 7:30-9:00 in the Grand Ballroom.

Thank you to Carr McLean for co-sponsoring breakfast, featuring proudly Canadian food, courtesy of this proudly Canadian company. Come to the AGM to learn more about a new OMA Member Benefit, offered in partnership with Carr McLean.



Photo: Brantford Tourism

## Museum Impact Survey and Modernizing Community Museum Funding Working Group

Friday, 9-9:45, Grand Ballroom

The OMA's Modernizing Community Museum Funding Working Group of four OMA Councillors will present recent research and strategic thinking. Starting with the Museum Impact Survey, the Group will share their findings and propose directions for the modernization of provincial museum funding.

**Keynote: Thanh Sinden, Museum Detox, 10:15-11:00**

## Ignite Sessions, 11:00-11:15, Grand

**Ballroom**  
**Ignite** Experimenting with Interpretation in a Museums Experiential Learning Course

Jordan Baker, Part-Time Faculty, Nipissing University & THEMUSEUM

Part of the Ignite Sessions, Friday, 11:00-11:15

This session details the Nipissing University History Department's Museums and Public History experiential learning course, in which students worked at one of four

local museums around North Bay. Learning how and why interpretation is used was central to the course, as students experienced concepts of tourism, engagement, and fun, all while integrating these with the standard humanities approach to critical thinking.

## Ten Ways to Build a Network of Teacher Advocates

Meredith Leonard, Halton Region Heritage Services

Part of the Ignite Sessions, Friday, 11:00-11:15

How do museums build a network of teacher advocates? Staff from Heritage Services have undertaken to answer this question by building a collaborative network of supportive teachers centred on

our Partners in Time in-class school program. Discover our top ten takeaways from this process and how you can build your own teacher network.

*Ignite sessions are exciting 5 minute presentations where the slides advance every 15 seconds.*



Hockey legend Wayne Gretzky was born and raised in Brantford!



## Concurrent Sessions, 11:25am, Continued

### **Sparking Joy: A Practical Guide to Collections Sanity**

*Claire Bennett, Halton Region Heritage Services*  
Friday, 11:25–11:55, Grand Ballroom

Active collecting. Sustainability. Effective collections. Sharing economy. Collections managers are facing increasing pressure to develop relevant and useful collections, but how? This presentation and discussion will cover issues of deaccessioning, collections management, and utilizing networks to develop and manage collections.

### **Igniting Connections: Facilitating Community Networks and Narratives**

*Meaghan Drascic-Gaudio, Madeleine Howard, Hailey Graham, University of Toronto; Don Kawasoe, Community Partner*  
Friday, 11:25-12:10, Bell Hillier Room

Reflecting on “Redefining Home: A Story of Japanese Canadian Resettlement in Toronto”, this session discusses the co-curation process that led to the exhibit’s success. It will inspire others to create community-based networks, facilitate open dialogue amongst participants, and incorporate collaboration into their curatorial processes.

### **Documenting the Intermaterial Collaboration within Object Networks**

*Sandrena Raymond, PhD Candidate, University of Toronto*  
Friday, 11:40-12:10, Wayne Gretzky Room

This session challenges traditional notions of collections documentation and provides a case study for thinking through different methods of recognizing the networks of intermaterial relationships held by the objects we collect.

*Lunch: 12:10-1:00, thank you:*



## Plenary: OMA at the Association of African American Museums, 1:00-1:50

*Cheryl Blackman, Museums & Heritage Services, City of Toronto; Asheda Dwyer, York University; Shelley Falconer, Art Gallery of Hamilton; Kelley Swift Jones, Simcoe County Museum*

**Friday, 1:00-1:50, Grand Ballroom**

In this session, Ontario delegates who had the opportunity to attend the Association of African American Museums annual conference in Mississippi last August will share their experiences and what they learned. They will highlight the benefits of Ontario museums participating in Black and African museum networks. The delegates will also outline how the employment of Black museology is integral to a more critical interpretation of the diversity and complexities of Black Canadian and African diasporic experiences, including the realities of anti-Black racism, past and present. The presenters will discuss how their learning and experiences will inform their future work at their respective institutions and organizations through the exploration of three case studies: the challenges of exhibiting the African collection held by the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the interpretation of the Oro African Church site, and the need for a Black history and cultural space located in Toronto.

*Networking Break: 1:50-2:15, thank you:*





## Concurrent Sessions, 2:15pm start

### **Confessions of a Museum Professional – Part II**

*Christian Blake, Royal Ontario Museum; Amy Cubberley, St. Marys Museum; Janet Reid, Markham Museum; William Hollingshead, MS Norgoma & Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals*  
**Friday, 2:15-3:00, Grand Ballroom**

Returning for a second year, this project invites colleagues to mail in postcards that share anonymous stories about studying and working in the cultural sector. At Conference, a moderated panel discussion will analyze these postcards and speak directly to the audience about various issues affecting museum professionals today.

### **Character Sketches, Body Image Awareness Exhibition/Education program**

*Stephanie Porter, Woodstock Art Gallery; Roberta Grosland, Norfolk Arts Centre*  
**Friday, 2:15-3:15, Bell Hillier Room**

Through the merging of art and public health, an education initiative was developed to address positive

and negative body image with local grade 5 and 6 students. This presentation will explore how a network was developed between museum and community partners that led to increased support for local youth in Woodstock and how networks such as this can be formed in other communities.

### **Preserving Tragedy: Negotiating the Collecting of Spontaneous Memorials**

*Gabrielle Major & Chris Selman, City of Toronto Museums and Heritage Services*  
**Friday, 2:30-3:15, Wayne Gretzky Room**

Collecting meaningful objects that reflect the communities we represent is a cornerstone of museological work. Unfortunately, this can include materials pertaining to tragedy. Museums are increasingly being asked to preserve objects related to traumatic events. Using two case studies we discuss practical and theoretical considerations of collecting from spontaneous memorials.



Photo: Brantford Tourism

Lunchtime discussion tables and sessions are your opportunity for free-flowing and frank discussions with your colleagues about topics that impact your work. Each table has a host to facilitate discussion, but where the conversation goes is up to you.

Share your experiences, ask questions, talk shop. Discussions begin 20 minutes after lunch starts, so grab your plate and find a seat! Tables will be identified with signs stating the topic.

## Table Topics on Thursday:

- **Marketing Museums**—Have a bite with your colleagues and share your marketing ideas and questions. What's working? Where are you spending and where are you saving? Looking to try a new strategy? Use your colleagues as a sounding board! Facilitated by **Adrienne Carter**, The Heart of Ontario
- **Get to know GOEMP** (Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals). GOEMP has got your back at lunch! The Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals (GOEMP) Committee will facilitate a Conversation Table to serve in the following ways: the official meeting place for Conference Connections participants; a meet-and-greet space for GOEMP Committee members and the EMP community; and an opportunity to find out more about applying to be on the GOEMP Committee for the 2019-2022 term! Facilitated by **Lisa Terech** and **Madeline Smolarz**, GOEMP Committee
- **Municipal Museums**—the joys and challenges of being part of a municipal structure. Do you work in that particular realm of museums that exist within Municipalities? This is your chance to sit down and talk shop with others in the same situation. Let's talk about challenges and strategies for making the most of working in a museum that is a small part of a much larger governmental organization. Facilitated by **Sonia Mrva**, City of Hamilton Museums
- **Effective Advocacy**—Advocacy is all about creating the right message and communicating it in the right way to the right people. Sit down with others who are using advocacy to make change in their communities and share your experiences and your questions. Facilitated by **Michael Rikley-Lancaster**, Mississippi Valley Textile Museum
- **Database Discussion—Options for Small Museums**  
*In the Bell Hillier Room, 12:20-12:50*  
Following a lively discussion on the ONMuse-L listserv this summer, continue the conversation about collections database options for small museums. What are the particular needs of small, volunteer-run museums and what is currently available? What are the gaps and how can they be filled? Facilitated by **William Hollingshead**, North Shore Cultural Attractions Network, and **Nathan Etherington**, Brant Historical Society

## Table Topics on Friday:

- **Get to know GOEMP:** GOEMP has got your back at lunch! The Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals (GOEMP) Committee will facilitate a Conversation Table to serve in the following ways: the official meeting place for Conference Connections participants; a meet-and-greet space for GOEMP Committee members and the EMP community; and an opportunity to find out more about applying to be on the GOEMP Committee for the 2019-2022 term! Facilitated by **William Hollingshead**, GOEMP Committee



- **Championing Diversity and Inclusion in the Museum Workforce**—Diversity has been a buzzword for years, but how has all the talk actually changed the museum workforce? Let's talk recruitment, retention, and being a champion of change. Facilitated by **Devon Muhic**, Scarborough Museum
- **Operating with Limited Human Resources**—A conversation about having more work than people to do it or money to pay them. Let's talk about prioritizing the work that needs to be done, finding ways to bring more people on board, and making sure that everyone isn't burnt out at the end of the day. Facilitated by **Nadine Hammond**, Museum on Tower Hill
- **Database Discussion—Databases of the Future**  
*In the Bell Hillier Room, 12:20-12:50*  
Following a lively discussion on the ONMuse-L listserv this summer, continue the conversation about what collections databases should be, now and in the future. What information do we capture, how do we access it, and what role does AI have to play? Let's put it all on the table. Facilitated by **Julian Kingston**, Oakville Museums, and **John Summers**, Halton Region Heritage Services

**Networking Tip:** The OMA ListServ, ONmuse-L, is an OMA Member Benefit. This listserv focuses on discussions and information of interest to museum professionals, students and others concerned with art, heritage and culture in Ontario. This listserv is a method for members to network, share and obtain information, and discuss issues in Ontario. Visit the registration desk to learn more!

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## Hotel Lobby

14. Tactile Vision Graphic
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16. Royal Ontario Museum
17. Canadian Museum of History/Canadian War Museum
18. Gaylord Archival



## Passport to Prizes!

Visit the exhibitors listed in the passport found in your delegate bag and have them initial or stamp your passport. Once your passport is full, write your name on it and enter it into the draw at the registration table! Winners for fabulous prizes will be drawn at conference closing.

## Members of the Brant Museums and Galleries Association

Find these museums, as well as other local attractions, great restaurants, and local shops on the Conference App!

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead

Bell Homestead National Historic Site

Brant Museum & Archives

Brantford & Area Sports Hall of Recognition

Burford Historical Society

Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre

Canadian Military Heritage Museum

Chiefswood National Historic Site

Economic Development & Tourism Department,  
City of Brantford

Economic Development & Tourism Department,  
County of Brant

Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant

Great War Centenary Association of Brantford,  
Brant County, Six Nations

Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks

Myrtleville House Museum / National Trust for  
Canada

The Ontario Genealogical Society—Brant County  
Branch

Paris Museum & Historical Society

Six Nations Tourism

South Dumfries Historical Society

Woodland Cultural Centre

*If your museum should be listed here, please contact Michela Comparey at [partners@museumsonario.ca](mailto:partners@museumsonario.ca)*



## Conference Program Committee

**Adrienne Carter**, Manager, Destination Development & Finance, The Heart of Ontario (Hamilton, Halton Brant, Regional Tourism Association)

**Nathan Etherington**, Programming and Community Coordinator, Brant Historical Society, **Committee Chair**

**Scott Gillies**, Curator, Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum

**Will Hollingshead**, Manager & Curator, MS Norgoma

**Feather Maracle**, Executive Director, Six Nations Public Library

**Sara Munroe**, Arts and Culture Development Officer, City of Brantford

**Stephanie Pile**, Projects Coordinator, Woodland Cultural Centre

**Brian Wood**, Curator, Bell Homestead National Historic Site

**Rhonda Yearwood**, Archives Assistant, St. James Cathedral

## Ontario Museum Association Secretariat

**Mary Collier**, Professional Development Manager

**Michela Comparey**, Conference & Communications Coordinator

**Marie Lalonde**, Executive Director

**Alejandra Paton**, Membership and Administration Coordinator

**Christopher Shackleton**, Advocacy Assistant

**Jennifer Lyn**, Volunteer

## Local Arrangements Committee

**Glenn Brown**, Theatre Manager, Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts

**Victoria Hudson-Muir**, Founder, Grandview Theatre

**Julia Jacobson**, Board Member, Canadian Military Heritage Museum

**Jaquie Jamieson**, Manager, Tourism, Six Nations Development Corporation

**Janis Monture**, Director of Tourism & Cultural Initiatives, Six Nations Development Corporation

**Carol Moore**, Brant Heritage Coordinator, County of Brant

**Sara Munroe**, Arts & Culture Development Officer, City of Brantford, **Committee Chair**

**Ana Olson**, Gallery Director, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant

**Russell Press**, Director of Economic Development & Tourism, County of Brant

**Eva Salter**, Regional Advisor for Brant, Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport

## OMA Interns

**Alexandra Desplanque**

**Evelina Domeikyte**

**Fergus Maxwell**

**Abigail Moser**

**Sophia Seward**

**Aminata Shaw**



Photo: Downtown Brantford