

PEI Museum and  
Heritage Foundation



Musée et Fondation du  
patrimoine de l'Î.-P.-É



*Image: Ann Maxwell Family Collection, 1924.*

*A photo from the Foundation's award-winning exhibit, *Black Islanders: Four Centuries and Counting*, in 2024.*

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-2025

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*Ice Boat - Basin Head Fisheries Museum*

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*We acknowledge that the land we gather on is the  
ancestral land of the Mi'kmaq and we respect the  
Mi'kmaq as the Indigenous people of PEI.*

**Kinu na msit tela'matultite'wk.  
Nous sommes tous visés par les traités.  
We are all treaty people.**



01

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Honourable Zack Bell*

*Minister of Fisheries, Tourism, Sport and Culture*

Dear Minister Bell,

We are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

With continued support from the Province, the Foundation has expanded its programs, exhibitions and other offerings while remaining committed to its mandate. This report outlines key projects, initiatives and achievements that shaped our work over the past year.

Looking ahead to 2025–2026, we remain dedicated to preserving the Island's heritage while advancing our goal of creating inclusive, representative, and accessible spaces and experiences for all. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our collaboration with the province in the year to come.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Fiep de Bie

**FIEP DE BIE**  
CHAIR



**MATTHEW MCRAE**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## 02 ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

### *Vision*

To help Islanders play an active and informed role in shaping their world by encouraging an understanding and appreciation of Prince Edward Island's cultural and natural heritage.

### *Mission*

To preserve the heritage of Prince Edward Island for present and future generations. As Prince Edward Island's provincial museum, the Foundation is the principal repository and steward of evidence that documents or represents the cultural and natural history of our province and its people.

### *Mandate*

- To study, collect, preserve, interpret, and protect the human and natural heritage of Prince Edward Island for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of the province.
- To acquire and share knowledge of Island history, culture, and natural world with Islanders and visitors.
- To encourage discovery, appreciation, and understanding of Prince Edward Island and to inspire Islanders and their visitors to explore and understand the world around them.



# Board of Governors

The PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation Board of Governors is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council pursuant to section five of the Museum Act.

The Act states that the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation shall have a board consisting of not fewer than six and not more than eight members. Members are appointed to a three-year term and are eligible for reappointment.

The composition of the board for the reporting period was as follows:

**FIEP DE BIE, CHAIR**  
2ND TERM

**GORDON LAVOIE**  
2ND TERM

**JOAN SINCLAIR**  
2ND TERM

**JANE AFFLECK**  
1ST TERM

**KAREN MAIR**  
1ST TERM

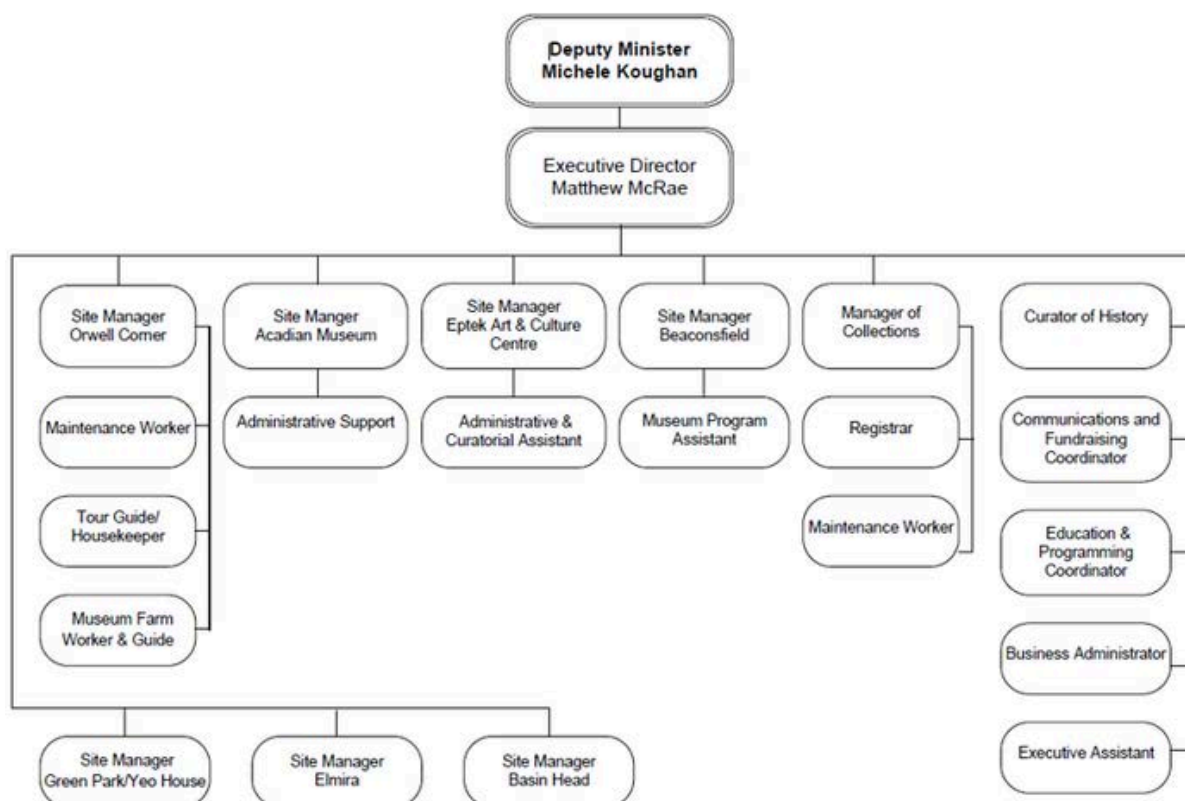
**MONICA GILKS**  
1ST TERM

**KYLE BLOOD**  
1ST TERM

**CONNIE SPENCER**  
1ST TERM

## Organizational Structure

### DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, TOURISM, SPORT & CULTURE MUSEUMS & HERITAGE



# Staffing

In 2024-2025, the Foundation comprised:

- 31 permanent full-time, part-time, & casual positions.
- 29 contract employees and temporary summer staff.
- 22 volunteers.



As a non-profit, the Foundation relies upon provincial and federal support to hire essential contract and summer staff. Support accessed includes programs such as Young Canada Works, Jobs for Youth, UPEI International Student Support Program, Tourism HR Council, Cultural HR Council, Employment Development Agency, the Provincial Government's Internship Development Program, and Skills PEI.

These temporary staff are largely located at the seven Museum and Heritage sites, providing interpretation and customer service to our visitors. One new permanent position was created, Programming Assistant, to provide operational support for Beaconsfield's programs, events, sales, and fundraising projects. Additionally, the Curator of Collections position has changed into the Collections Manager role at our Collection Facility.



*PEI Museum & Heritage Foundation staff at the 2023 Orientation session at Beaconsfield Historic House.*



# *Divisions*

*Pictured in the photo is Dr. John Calder, advisor to the Foundation on Paleontology and Meg Preston, Registrar.*

## COLLECTIONS & CURATORIAL

Responsible for the Foundation's legislated activities behind the scenes: preservation and conservation, collections development, research, documentation and access, exhibitions, training, and public outreach.

The team includes a Collections Manager, a Curator of History, a Registrar, a Digitization Coordinator, a Photographer, and additional short-term contract staff, volunteers, and interns.

## ADMINISTRATION

Responsible for the professional administrative functions of the Foundation: strategic and business planning, communications and digital media, fundraising, member recruitment, finance and payroll, accounts receivable and payable, and human resources.

The team includes the Executive Director, a Business Administrator, an Executive Assistant, and a Communication and Fundraising Coordinator, as well as other contract employees.

## *fun facts*

In 2024, the Collection Team accepted 113 fossils. This doubles the fossil collection in the Foundation's holdings. PEI is fast becoming a global hotspot for fossils from the Permian period (299 to 251 million years ago).

In 2024, the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation hosted its first Fossil Day event!



HFP.2024.14.1

*The fossil affectionately known as "Little Foot" was found by Anne MacFadyen and is now part of the provincial collection.*

## EDUCATION & PROGRAMMING

Responsible for developing and delivering public programming for visitors, education programming which aligns with provincially established curriculum and learning outcomes for K-12 students, as well as teaching aids for teachers to support learning in Island classrooms. This division is led by a permanent, year-round Education and Programming Coordinator, and a Programming and Education Officer.

## HERITAGE

Responsible for administering programs pursuant to the Heritage Places Protection Act and maintaining the official Register of Heritage Places and the [peihistoricplaces.ca](http://peihistoricplaces.ca) website. The Heritage Officer also acts as secretary to the Heritage Places Advisory Board, striving to promote and support the importance of heritage in the province.

### *fun facts*

During the reporting period, 36 schools and 68 classrooms were engaged with our Foundation's educational programs through special requests, online resources made available via Google Classroom, and site visits. We welcomed a total of just over 6,000 students!

The Heritage Officer coordinated the annual Provincial Heritage Fair in 2024, which hosted 230 students who presented 180 projects!

*2024 Provincial Heritage Fair Awards Ceremony | Photo courtesy PEI Government*





# MUSEUM AND HERITAGE SITES

*Open Year-Round*



## *Acadian Museum*

Guests are invited to discover the journey of the Acadians' 300-year presence on PEI with their permanent exhibition. The Museum also features temporary exhibitions, beautiful historical paintings, interpretive videos, a genealogy research centre, and a gift shop.

Team composition: Site Manager, Curatorial and Administrative Assistant, Seasonal Chief Interpreter, and temporary student staff.



## *Beaconsfield Historic House*

One of Charlottetown's most elegant and beautifully restored Victorian homes. Built with the finest materials and craftsmanship, and designed by architect W. C. Harris, the site is also home to a Carriage House that hosts meetings, lectures, concerts and public events. Guests are welcome to browse the gift shop and stroll the gardens overlooking Charlottetown's beautiful waterfront, Victoria Park and Government House.

Team composition: Site Manager, as well as temporary contract and student staff.



## *Eptek Art & Culture Centre*

This site offers frequently changing exhibitions that feature PEI history, art, culture, and science. During the summer months, guests can participate in weekly art and craft demonstrations. The site is also home to year-round programming such as exhibitions, scavenger hunts, lunchtime film series, and a gift shop featuring local products.

Team composition: Site Manager, Administrative and Curatorial Assistant, Museum Programming Assistant, and temporary student staff.



# MUSEUM AND HERITAGE SITES

*Open Seasonally*

## *Basin Head Fisheries Museum*

**Open to the public from June 3 to October 2, 2024.**

The site shares the story of PEI's historic inshore fishery with its permanent exhibition and Cannery. Overlooking the beautiful Northumberland Strait at Basin Head Provincial Park, guests are welcome to cool off with an ice cream cone from The Scoop, the site's beachside ice cream hut, or browse the gift shop.

Team composition: Site Manager, Seasonal Tour Guides, and student staff.



## *Elmira Railway Museum*

**Open to the public from June 10 to October 4, 2024.**

The site features an exhibition of the original transportation links to the mainland via the railway system. Guests are welcome to ride the new trackless miniature train, the railway speeder, and our hand-operated trolley car. You can also view one of Atlantic Canada's largest model train collections, play on the train-themed playground, and browse the gift shop. A new miniature trackless train was acquired in August 2024 and has been a popular addition.

Team composition: Site Manager, Seasonal Senior Tour Guide, and student staff.



## *Green Park Shipbuilding Museum and Yeo House*

**Open to the public from June 3 to August 31, 2024.**

Guests are taken back to the 1860s to experience PEI's fabled shipbuilding industry and tour Yeo House, a beautifully restored – and reportedly haunted – Victorian home. Visitors are welcome to stroll the beautiful grounds and garden, view the historic schoolhouse, and try their hand at blacksmithing.

Team composition: Site Manager, Seasonal Senior Interpretive Staff, and other contract and student staff.



## *Orwell Corner Historic Village*

**Open to the public from May 27 to October 11, 2024.**

Guests are invited to discover a charming historic village that depicts life in an 1890s agricultural crossroad and engage in fun, kid-friendly, educational programming. Visitors can feed the animals, browse the agricultural museum, try their hand at blacksmithing, make candles, go for a horse and wagon ride, and visit the general store, church, and schoolhouse. Guests are welcome to pack a picnic to enjoy while overlooking beautiful Orwell Bay.

Team composition: Site Manager, Farmer, Maintenance Worker, Admission Clerk, Seasonal Tour Guides, and student staff.



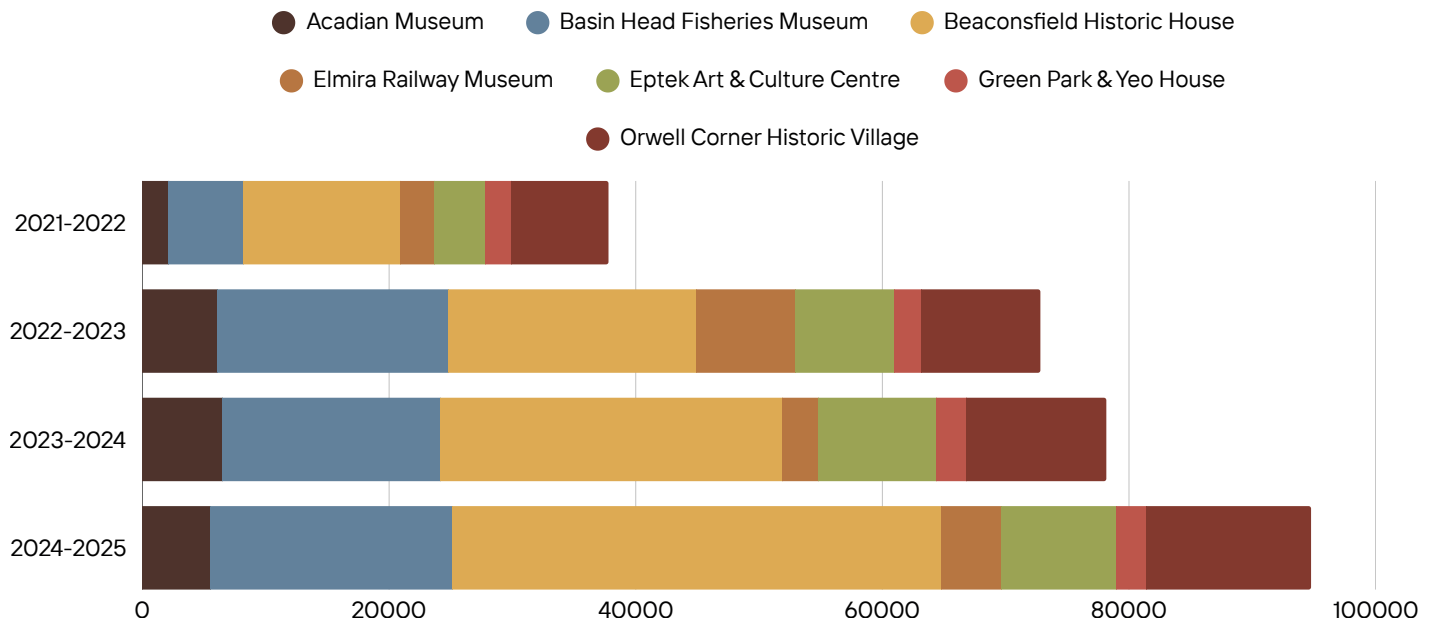


# 03 OUR IMPACT

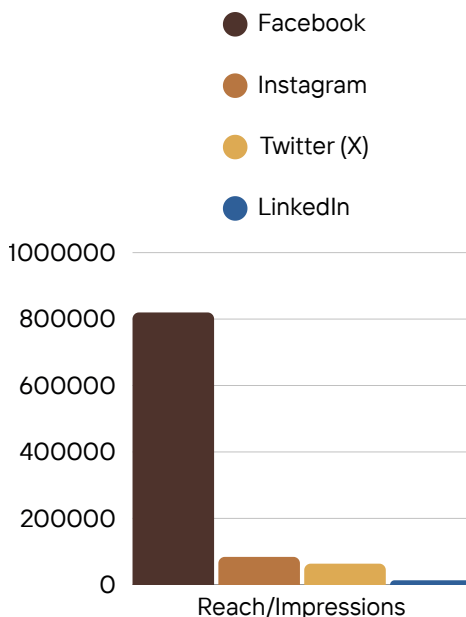
Tourism growth was reflected in increased visitation to the Foundation's sites, with total visitation reaching 94,766. The summer of 2024 saw many visitors attracted by a busy calendar of programming, exhibitions and events, such as our *Black Islanders: Four Centuries and Counting* exhibit which won a Governor's Award from the National Trust of Canada, as well as *The Haunting of Yeo House*, the *Eptek Arts & Culture Centre GeniéArtsSmarts* program and exhibit, and the *Dix million de pas / 10 Million Steps* exhibition at the Acadian Museum of PEI.

The popularity of our regular programming at Beaconsfield, such as the *Victorian Séance* and the *Victorian Christmas Experience*, in addition to the new Bog Tours, resulted in increased visitation numbers compared to 2023. Our programs at Orwell Corner Historic Village, such as the *Halloween Hauntacular*, the *Bread and Butter Experience* and the *Blacksmith Forge Experience* continue to be very popular. The kid's summer day camps at Orwell, piloted in 2024, have proven to be a very popular offering.

## Visitation



## Digital footprint



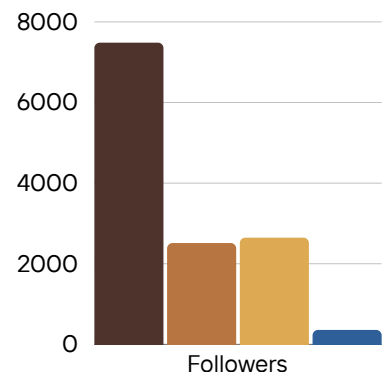
**Followers:** individuals who subscribe to the Foundation's social media accounts.

**Reach:** total number of people that saw the Foundation's content on Facebook and Instagram.

**Impressions:** the number of times audience saw the Foundation's content on Twitter (X).

**Total followers** (all accounts): 13,004

**Total reach/impressions** (all accounts): 981,324



# *Provincial Museum*

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **2024-2028**

The Foundation's new Strategic Plan is the product of an extensive review of the Foundation and its facilities and services, as well as an in-depth consultation process with both internal and external stakeholders. The plan that resulted from these efforts is meant to guide the Foundation into a new phase of its development by identifying key priorities and pathways to achieving them over the coming years.

The new version of the Foundation's Strategic Plan is also intended to help staff locate their work within the framework of the Plan by laying out the Foundation's core values in a concise format.

### **Our five priorities**

1. Creating museum-standard spaces for collection storage, care, study, and expansion of the collection.
2. Enriching our curatorial narrative, fostering partnerships with local communities, and enhancing physical and cognitive accessibility to promote social inclusion, connections, and dialogue.
3. Expanding our audience reach and engaging with the Island's diverse communities through dynamic experiences, educational programming, and inclusive spaces.
4. Strengthening organizational capacity by fostering representative and inclusive work environments.
5. Developing a new brand that promotes the connections among our sites while communicating the Foundation's priorities.



*Elmira Railway Museum  
50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration*



# *commitment to* **DIVERSITY - EQUITY - INCLUSION**



*Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Black Islanders Exhibit - Opening Reception*

In 2024-25, our Foundation continued working with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Consultant Evelyn Bradley to strengthen our commitment to developing spaces and experiences that are inclusive, representative, and accessible for all.

Some of our DEI initiatives included: launching The Bog Walking Tour; staff completing "Truth and Reconciliation" Training; and consultations with Indigenous groups as part of development for new Interpretive Plan for Basin Head Fisheries Museum.

During this past year, Eptek Art & Culture Centre incorporated more Pride-related items in the entryway to be more welcoming. There is a Pride flag outside, a banner, smaller flags inside, and staff wear rainbow lanyards. The rainbow flag outside is a permanent "Welcome" fixture now. They also hosted our award-winning panel exhibition titled *Black Islanders: Four Centuries and Counting* in the small gallery, *Remembering Mi'kmaq Veterans* exhibit in the lobby, and *The Creator's Gift* in the main gallery.

Beaconsfield Carriage House provided substantial rental space at reduced fee or no fee for cultural and religious gatherings, and non-traditional art forms and performances. We welcomed guests from the Indigenous Relations Secretariat, PEI Ukrainian Community, the Women's Network PEI, BIPOC USHR, IRSA, the Chinese Cultural Society, the Rainbow Youth Dance, Haus Dijon, and more.

The winter/spring 2024 edition of the Beaconsfield Book Club focused on BIPOC Speculative Fiction. Programming and Education Officer Caitlyn Paxson and DEI Consultant Evelyn Bradley led small discussion groups for three speculative fiction titles by Black authors, *The Monsters We Defy*, *The Black God's Drums*, and *The Conductors*. This was a continuation of an existing program. Partners included The Bookmark and the Charlottetown Public Library.



# *commitment to* **DIVERSITY - EQUITY - INCLUSION** *(continued)*



*Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Black Islanders Exhibit Panel*



*Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Black Islanders Exhibit - Opening Reception*



*Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Black Islanders Exhibit - Opening Reception*

All programs that are presented through the Education and Programming division have a commitment to DEI and decolonization. *The Bog Tour* that is now part of the regular and school offerings at Beaconsfield was developed in partnership with Debbie Langston, the curriculum lead for diversity within the Department of Education. The tour was a collaboration between the museum, the curriculum development committee, and the descendants of David Sheppard and in consultation with the Black Cultural Society (BCS).

*Experiencing Acadian History* was created in collaboration with the French Language School Board (FLSB) and content was vetted through Georges Arsenault. The same is true of the Indigenous content that was added to Orwell Corner Historic Village through the Seeds of Change program. It was done in collaboration with Abegweit First Nation, Indigenous Elders and members of the Island Mi'kmaq community.

During July and August, Basin Head Fisheries Museum hosted a weekly Mi'kmaq Story Telling Series that was presented by the Mi'kmaq Heritage Actors.

For the first time in its history, the Foundation marched in the annual Pride Parade in Charlottetown, with staff from many different sites and divisions participating in the successful event.

At Orwell Corner Historic Village, Mi'kmaq Elder Junior Peter Paul set up a wigwam on-site and spoke with visitors about Indigenous culture for the season.



# *commitment to* **DIVERSITY - EQUITY - INCLUSION** (continued)



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
Remembering Mi'kmaq Veterans Exhibit*



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
The Creator's Gift Opening Reception*



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
Black Islanders Exhibit, 2024*

The Acadian Museum hosted a *Human Library* event featuring a talk by individuals who shared their cultures, hobbies, and experiences immigrating to Canada. The Museum also welcomed international students from Collège de l'Île, as well as the Stay and Study program, and have been collaborating with the Coopérative d'intégration francophone (CIF) when welcoming individuals to the Island.

The Foundation's DEI initiatives were also reflected in our digital offerings. Season four of the hidden island podcast features several episodes that focus on historically marginalized communities. The episode "from East to West, a voyage of Chinese Islanders" released in April of 2024 and focuses on Chinese immigration to the Island.

*Island Digital Voices* continues to highlight stories from diverse peoples across PEI, such as Sandra Sunil and Charles Ruth. Additionally, some of our digital education content was distributed by the Department of Education through our involvement in the Black Women's History Project.

All staff across the Foundation are engaging with ongoing DEI training as part of a continued effort create a more inclusive environment.

We look forward to new projects and partnerships next year that will foster meaningful connections with our community.

# NOTABLE PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

## Research and Public Access

Where possible, the Foundation assists the public and researchers with requests that pertain to the Provincial Collection. During the reporting period, the Collections Department received 148 research requests, with ten researchers having visited the Collections Facility in person. Additionally, the Collections Department continues to partner with Dr. Susan Brown to facilitate The Hidden History of Objects course offered by the University of Prince Edward Island.



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
Elm Street School Visit during Kerras Jeffery Exhibit, 2024*

## Education Programming

**Hybrid Classroom/Site Visits:** Our hybrid program where presenters visit schools and then lead on-site activities continues to receive strong support. Eight schools have been regularly participating, with multiple classes visiting the nearest museum. Beaconsfield's program remains popular, due in part to its proximity to several schools. We have also seen the hybrid program expand in Summerside where Eptek has created a strong partnership with Parkside School.

## Education Expansion

Our strategic plan aims to engage more schools in quality classroom presentations and site visits. This year, we expanded our reach through new classroom presentations in Prince County, and the launch of an art-based field trip at Eptek. Each site offers curriculum-aligned programming for K–9 students, with unique experiences that complement one another. Highlights include Elmira's new train-themed programs, Beaconsfield's expanded offerings including the Bog Tours, and Basin Head's popular fisherman's relay. The Acadian Museum welcomed several French and French Immersion classes, including a hybrid visit from Miscouche Elementary. While two visits to Green Park were cancelled due to heat warnings, overall participation remained strong.

### **Orwell Spring Program (May-June)**

Students experience rural life in the 1800s through immersive experiences including planting potatoes, milking goats, carriage rides, archaeological excavation and interactions with young animals at the farm.

### **Orwell Fall Program (Sept., Oct., Nov.)**

This is a harvest-based experience where students dig potatoes, cook them in a cauldron over an open fire and eat them with fresh butter. They also take a carriage ride, watch a blacksmithing demonstration, visit the farm, tour the general store and learn how to dance a traditional square set!

### **Orwell Winter Program (Jan., Feb., Mar.)**

Students grind grain into flour that they then combine with yeast and water to make dough. As the dough rises students have a chance to milk the goats, churn butter, press apples into cider, take a sleigh ride and go tobogganing. They also make snow candy over an open fire before eating the bread and butter that they made with a taste of apple cider to wash it down.



# NOTABLE PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

*(continued)*

## ***Experiencing Acadian History***

In an effort to better serve students in French and French Immersion schools, we partnered with Acadian and Francophone Affairs and the Department of Education to develop and begin the delivery of programs based on French Language School Board (FLSB) curriculum outcomes. As a result, two classroom presentations were developed with accompanying immersive experiences that can be delivered at Green Park and Orwell Corner. The first presentation explores Acadian objects and cultural materials, and the stories that we can tell using them. The second is very specific to FLSB curriculum and explores artifacts related to occupational surname origins. Paquet, Arsenault, Bougie, Bucher and Carpentier are all discussed alongside Smith, Taylor, Fisher, Roper, Turner and many more. In the classrooms, students get to interact with artifacts related to these trades and the surnames that developed from them. At the sites, students make rope and candles, and experience cutting logs and blacksmithing to better understand where some of our family names originate.

Feedback from students, teachers and the communities in general about all of the programs has been very positive. This is evident by the fact that the same teachers book their students into certain programs year after year. This program will continue in the 2025/2026 school year.

## ***Classroom presentations unique to grade level and curriculum***

We have developed a series of artifact-based, classroom presentations with an artifact kit that links to each curriculum from K-9.

## ***Digital Engagement and Outreach***

While in-person programming remains a priority, efforts to expand digital offerings are ongoing due to limited staffing capacity. Educational kits with digital components are available for loan to schools, though are currently underutilized. A Google Classroom resource has also been developed and is being considered for future implementation. In a creative example of virtual outreach, a Grade 2 classroom in Winnipeg received live, site-based tours of Orwell Corner, Beaconsfield, and Basin Head via Zoom, offering students a unique and interactive experience of PEI's heritage.

## ***Seeds of Change (Orwell Corner)***

Orwell partnered with three schools and Abegweit First Nation to create connections between the history of Island Mi'Kmaq people, French Acadians and Scottish settlers. Each school received information about the program. Students then researched the three agricultural traditions, visited the site to build and plant the gardens, and created teaching activities to share with other students visiting the gardens. Mount Stewart Consolidated researched and built a Three Sisters Garden. École Francois Buote researched and built a French Colonial garden and Souris Regional school researched and built a garden in the tradition of the early Scottish settlers that lived on the Island. The project was made possible through funding from Canadian Heritage.

## ***Education Funding Acknowledgements***

*Seeds of Change* was funded through the Appreciation and Rapprochement fund of Canadian Heritage. Staffing for Indigenous content at Orwell Corner Historic Village was in partnership with Abegweit First Nation.

*Experiencing Acadian History* was funded through Acadian and Francophone Affairs Secretariat and the Department of Education.

# NOTABLE PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

(continued)

## the hidden island Podcast

Our podcast is dedicated to exploring the Island's past in new and unexpected ways. Listeners will discover the hidden history of Prince Edward Island - and find out why that history is still relevant today.

### Our podcast at a glance:

- At the time of the writing of this annual report, the podcast has been downloaded over 20,000 times, by listeners across the globe.
- We released season five in January 2025.
- Featured episodes: *Aw, shucks! All about Oysters; Dimetro-Do's and Dimetro-Don'ts: Prehistoric PEI; On the Paper Trail: Annotating Archives; If these walls could talk: PEI's Architectural Marvels; and Charting the past: historic Island maps*



Our team is working hard to prepare for a potential season six of the podcast.

The podcast is available on all popular podcasting platforms, including Amazon Music, Apple Podcast, Audible, Spotify, and more.

## The Island Magazine



### February 2024 Issue 93

Issue 93 has a general history focus with articles featuring newly discovered history about Black communities in PEI.

Articles featured in this issue included:

- *They Came, They Saw, They Collected: The Search for the Island's Wild Species* by Rosemary Curley and Fiep de Bie.
- *Unintended Consequence: A Bermudian Deserter and the Repeal of Prince Edward Island's Slave Law / Des suites inattendues : le déserteur bermudien qui a provoqué l'abolition de la loi prince-édouardienne sur l'esclavage* by Harry Holman.
- *The Master of Beaconsfield Part Two: Henry J. Cundall* by Dr. Edward MacDonald.

### Fall/Winter 2024 - Issue 94

Issue 94 of The Island Magazine is dedicated to women's history, a significant first for the magazine.

Articles featured in this issue included:

- *Summerside's Wanda Wyatt: A Leader in Culture and Heritage* by Marlene Campbell and Jean MacKay.
- *Far-reaching Impacts of the Prince Edward Island Women's Institute* by Carol MacLellan.
- *Recovering Lost History: PEI Black Islanders, a story of reclamation and pride / Redécouvrir l'histoire perdue : Le Projet sur l'histoire des femmes noires de l'Î.-P.-É. : un histoire de réappropriation et de fierté* by Debbie Langston.



# NOTABLE PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

(continued)

## Island Digital Voices

The Island Digital Voices project, founded in 2021, is an initiative of the Government of Prince Edward Island. It aims to capture the stories of community members so they can be shared and preserved as part of our province's history. In 2024-2025, six more stories were added to the project:

- Charles Ruth
- Sandra Sunil
- Marissa Ladéroute
- Soleil Hutchinson & Lauren King
- Stella Shepard
- Tony Gallant

If you have a story you would like to share, please contact us at [mhpei@gov.pe.ca](mailto:mhpei@gov.pe.ca) or on social media @heritagepei. You can find our stories and more at <https://www.islanddigitalvoices.ca>



Charles Ruth  
Photo courtesy of Island Digital Voices

## Shopify and gift shops 2024-25

The Foundation's shopping platform, Shopify, contains over 200 items, including issues of The Island Magazine, memberships, books, podcast merchandise, and PEI-made giftware.

Visit our Museum Shop at:  
<https://peimuseumshop.ca/>

**Archival Collaborations:** The Acadian Museum of PEI continues to receive frequent requests for archival materials and images from both local and national organizations. Our collections were featured in exhibitions in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

In October 2024, a Claude Picard painting from the Association's collection was reproduced for public display on the Summerside Seafood Supreme building, in partnership with the City of Summerside. We collaborated with Culture Summerside and Centre Belle-Alliance to develop interpretive panels, contribute text, and support the unveiling event.

## Acadian Museum's Artifact Storage Reorganization (RE-ORG) Project:

With support from Canadian Heritage's Museums Assistance Program, the Acadian Museum undertook a RE-ORG project to improve artifact storage. Two Island-based experts developed a comprehensive plan and provided hands-on training to volunteers, including a full assessment of the collection. A contractor was hired for four months to implement the project, bringing valuable familiarity with the facility and database. Custom furniture and equipment were produced by a Summerside-based company.

## Online Collection

The Online Collection is part of an ongoing project to digitize the Provincial Collection. The website allows the public to access the collection from anywhere in the world and view the material and cultural objects that have been categorized.

During the 2024-2025 reporting period, several collections were added to the online museum including a collection of Prince Edward Island license plates which date from 1928 to 1998. They vary in color and information on them. Many of the plates are specific to the year they were used, including some with the text "Seat Belts Save".

During the reporting period, 3,240 material and cultural objects were photographed and entered in the e-museum's database. To view, visit <https://collections.peimuseum.ca>

# NOTABLE EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

**Eptek Wednesday Workshop Series:** During 2024-25, we offered weekly workshops showcasing local artists and a variety of mediums. These workshops were popular, with many people choosing to attend multiple sessions, which resulted in a fun and welcoming community vibe at the site.

The **Eptek Book Club** meets on the first Thursday of the month, from September to June each year. Their meetings take place after hours in the main gallery from 4-5pm.

**Lunchtime Film Series:** During the winter months (October to May), we host a weekly film series in the main gallery at Eptek. This initiative has been ongoing for more than 35 years and has been popular with seniors and others in Summerside and the surrounding area. This programming is provided free of charge, and those who attend the films are encouraged to socialize afterwards, and bring their lunch, tea/coffee, etc.

**Makers Sessions:** These free monthly drop-in sessions are held in the main gallery at Eptek Art & Culture Centre and are primarily community-led. Participants are encouraged to gather their latest project and join fellow makers for an afternoon of making. This initiative was introduced in February, 2024 as part of artist Jane Whitten's retrospective exhibit and has been a welcome addition to our regular programming.



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
ArtSmarts Learning Opportunity*

**Let's Get Creative: Children's Art Program:** In collaboration with art educator Ryan McAdam-Young, the PEI Museum offered two sessions of the Let's Get Creative art club for children aged 5-14 in Spring and Fall 2024. The program welcomed 32 participants across both terms and focused on hands-on exploration of various art forms, including painting, clay, collage, and puppet-making.

The program continues to be in high demand, often reaching capacity with waitlists. A dedicated gallery wall now showcases collaborative works created by participants, reinforcing the value of youth art in public exhibition spaces.

**GenieArtsSmarts:** The annual ArtsSmarts exhibition was on display from May 21st to June 2nd, showcasing student art projects from various schools across the Island. GénieArts allows teachers and artists of all arts disciplines to collaborate with students on original projects linked to curriculum outcomes. The program follows a model that allows teachers to encourage students' motivation and engagement in their learning. An opening Reception was held Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**ArtSmarts Learning Opportunity:** In December 2024, Eptek partnered with the Department of Education and ArtsSmarts to run a Pilot Project using leftover ArtsSmarts funds to cover student transportation. Hundreds of Grade 6 students visited over three days to explore *The Creator's Gift* exhibit, learn about Mi'kmaq and Black Islander history, and create plasticine art inspired by Julie Pellissier-Lush's Mi'kmaq Creation Story. Phase 2 involved school visits where the Eptek collaborated again with ArtsSmarts and the Lennox Island Mi'kmaq Cultural Centre to lead a beaded bracelet activity and share Mi'kmaq teachings. Student artworks were displayed in the May ArtsSmarts exhibit, and all activities were developed into a future Grade 6 teaching resource. The project was fast-paced but very positive, with hopes to continue in future years.



# NOTABLE EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

*(continued)*

**Acadian Remembrance Day on December 13 in Skmaqn – Port-la-Joye – Fort Amherst:** This event at the Acadian Museum of PEI was in partnership with SAFÎle, the Fédération culturelle, Parks Canada, the Department of Education, and Georges Arsenault. Students from École Saint-Augustin, as well as Angie Arsenault, Mia MacInnes, Karine Gallant, Vincent Gallant-Côté, and Father Albin Arsenault participated in the ceremony, which was filmed and posted on YouTube.

**PEI's Four Acadian Pillars Project:** The Acadie ÎPÉ Tourism Association developed a project to create experiences at four of the Island's Acadian "pillar" sites, including the Acadian Museum of PEI. With the help of Alvina Bernard, we worked on a handcrafted experience based on the colours of the Acadian flag, which was presented on Tuesday and Thursday mornings during the summer of 2025.

**Human / Living Library:** The Acadian Museum of PEI partnered with Bienvenue Évangéline as part of the *Rendez-vous de la francophonie* to coordinate our first Living Library/Human Library. They helped us recruit "books" or people to present topics on their culture, hobbies, experiences immigrating to Canada, and more.

**Images of Acadia, Stage 1: *Let's Go! Media*** took images for the Acadian Museum of PEI so that we have more up-to-date photos and videos of Acadia on the Island that will be used in a new video presented to visitors.

Canadian Heritage will fund Phase 2, which we will complete in 2025-26. Phase 2 includes research on more recent history, copyright agreements, and research on new technologies that will allow a greater number of our visitors to benefit from this video, including those with visual and hearing impairments.

**Acadian National Day / Fête nationale de l'Acadie :** The Historical Committee and the Acadian Museum jointly organized an open house to celebrate Acadian National Day. It included a talk by historian Georges Arsenault entitled "The Little and Big History of the Acadian Flag," which highlighted the 140th anniversary of the adoption of the Acadian flag in Miscouche, PEI. There was also a singalong of Acadian songs. Approximately 150 people attended the event, nearly half of whom were tourists.

**Acadian Museum Talks:** We organized two talks at the Acadian Museum. The first, entitled "*Acadian Women's Clothing: From Myth to Reality*," was given on June 16 by Annette Léger-White of Moncton.

The second talk, on the topic of "*Evolution of the lives of Acadian mothers*", took the form of a roundtable discussion on February 23. The participants, representing three generations of mothers, were Eileen Chiasson Pendergast, Darlene Arsenault, and Josée Boudreau.

**National Film Board Screening:** The Acadian Museum of PEI hosted a presentation of the film "*Trécaré: à la source du son de la Baie Sainte-Marie*" as part of the *Rendez-vous de la francophonie*, followed by music and discussions with local musicians.

**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Blueberry Social:** August 17, 2024 marked the return of our annual fundraising event at Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House, which had been previously canceled for several years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This event and its delicious homemade blueberry pie fundraising sale are beloved by the local community and visitors from all over.

**Mi'kmaq Story Telling Series:** During July and August, Basin Head Fisheries Museum hosted a weekly Mi'kmaq Story Telling Series in collaboration with the Mi'kmaq Heritage Actors.

# NOTABLE EVENTS & PROGRAMMING (continued)

**The Haunting of Yeo House:** This popular program returned to Green Park Shipbuilding Museum, welcoming more visitors to the site in the early evenings in July and August to tour the Historic Yeo House and listen to stories about the home's history and infamous haunting. This program continued to be popular with both tourists and locals. Partners included Tyne Valley Teas.

**In the Time of Maud:** Coordinated to launch for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration of L.M. Montgomery, this new program invited visitors to time travel back to the late 1800s and experience life in a rural PEI village. Activities included postcard writing, flower arranging, dancing, a wagon ride, and afternoon tea. Especially popular with tourists and tour groups. One group remarked that it was "the best thing we did while visiting PEI".

**The Beaconsfield Séance:** This extremely popular program returned with some new tricks and more mystery than ever! Guests were welcomed into the double drawing room and experienced first-hand what it would have been like to attend a Victorian séance through this immersive theatrical program, which was then followed by an educational talk-back. Popular with tourists and locals and always a success. Partners included Discover Charlottetown, You Little Witch & Co., and the Confederation Centre of the Arts.

**The Kids' Halloween Hauntacular:** The Hauntacular returned for its second year and welcomed even more visitors to Orwell Village at the very end of the season. Children and their parents trick-or-treated in the village, enjoying seasonal décor, interpretive activities, and treats. This program becomes more successful each year.

**Victorian Christmas at Beaconsfield:** Visitors got into the holiday spirit by experiencing a narrative tour of beautifully decorated Beaconsfield and a harp concert in the double drawing room, followed by historically inspired treats. This year the exterior of the house was lit, drawing in people walking in the area. Partners included Discover Charlottetown.

**The Beaconsfield Book Club:** The winter/spring 2024 edition of the Beaconsfield Book Club focused on BIPOC Speculative Fiction. Programming and Education Officer Caitlyn Paxson and Culture Critic and Diversity Specialist Evelyn Bradley led small discussion groups for three speculative fiction titles by Black authors, *The Monsters We Defy*, *The Black God's Drums*, and *The Conductors*. This was a continuation of an existing program. Partners included The Bookmark and the Charlottetown Public Library.

**New Electric Train:** On August 7, 2024, we welcomed a new electric train for visitors to ride at Elmira Railway Museum. The launch day was a success, and the electric train has proven to be a very popular addition to the site.

*New Electric Train at Elmira Railway Station*





# NOTABLE EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

*(continued)*

**Bread and Butter Experience:** At Orwell Corner Historic Village, visitors experienced the 1800s bread and butter-making process, from grain harvesting to churning cream into butter.

**Blacksmithing Experience:** This living history program continues to be offered at Orwell Corner Historic Village and Green Park Shipbuilding Museum and Yeo House due to its popularity among students. Visitors learn the art of blacksmithing and forge keepsakes.

**Kids' Summer Camps:** Children step back in time at Orwell Corner Historic Village summer camps. Through hands-on activities, children will experience life as it was in the 1900s. From churning butter and making ice cream to blacksmithing and caring for farm animals, campers will have an experience like no other. Fun, learning, and a little time travel - all packed into an unforgettable week.



*Feeding the animals at Orwell Corner Historic Village*



*Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House  
43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Blueberry Social*

**Farm Day:** This Orwell event showcased plowing and hay binder demonstrations using antique equipment. It also showcased antique saws, threshers, and other equipment.

**Host to Festival of Small Halls:** The Festival returned to rural communities across PEI from June 14–23, 2024, including Orwell Corner Historic Village. Over 40 acts across 30 shows filled community halls and performance spaces across the Island.

**Old-Fashioned Ceilidhs:** Orwell Corner Historic Village was proud to present a series of fundraising ceilidhs in summer 2024. Featuring live entertainment by local musicians, a light lunch, and 50/50 draws, the events were a hit with guests.

# INITIATIVES OF THE HERITAGE OFFICER

A new Heritage Officer was hired at the end of May 2025. The Heritage Officer is responsible for administering programs pursuant to the Heritage Places Protection Act, and maintains the Register of Heritage Places and its Historic Places website. The Heritage Officer also acts as secretary to the Heritage Places Advisory Board, striving to promote and support the importance of heritage in the province.

**Annual Provincial Heritage Fair:** The departure of the previous Heritage Officer, who served for over twenty years, combined with moving the Provincial Heritage Fair to a new location - the Eastlink Centre in Charlottetown - presented many challenges. Despite this, the Fair was a great success. Over 27 schools and homeschool groups across PEI presented 180 heritage fair projects at the Eastlink Centre in Charlottetown on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. In total, almost 2,000 Island students participated in the Heritage Fair program during the 2024-2025 season.



*John J. Sark Memorial School Students at the 2025 Provincial Heritage Fair  
Photo courtesy of Government of PEI*

**National Heritage Fair Showcase:** Replacing the previous Young Citizens program, the Showcase provides an opportunity for Heritage Fair finalists from across Canada to be recognized and judged at a national level. Four PEI student projects were highlighted at the National Heritage Fair:

- KJ Stewart, "1968 - 1971 Islanders", Spring Park
- Benjamin Adams, Benoit Arsenault, « Festival Acadien », École Évangéline
- Cohen Hammill, « L'église St. Augustine », Gulf Shore
- Tayler Wardrope, "Dangerous Times", Homeschool Group

Four winners of the National Showcase will receive a \$500 RESP and have their projects featured in Canada's History magazine. They will also receive travel and accommodations for two to attend a gathering with the other National Showcase winners. Additionally, the Showcase projects are displayed online for public vote that sees the three most popular projects receive a \$100 gift card.

**Provincial Heritage Incentive Program:** This program provides financial assistance for eligible provincially designated heritage places under the Heritage Places Protection Act. The Department of Fisheries, Tourism, Sport and Culture encourages investment and conservation of designated heritage places through the Program. In March 2025, the program supported the restoration and conservation work of two stained glass windows at Princetown United Church in Malpeque with a grant of \$1338.23.

**PEI Register of Heritage Places:** The Heritage Officer managed the PEI Register of Heritage Places, registering three heritage places - the Souris Show Hall, the Cardigan River Range Light, and the St. Peter's Harbour Pioneer Cemetery.



# EXHIBITIONS

*Foundation Curated*

## ***Black Islanders: Four Centuries and Counting***

***Beaconsfield Historic House lawn, July – October, 2024***

***Eptek Art & Culture Centre, January 10 – February 7, 2024***



*Black Islanders Exhibit opening day at Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Photo courtesy of Government of PEI*



*Black Islanders Exhibit opening day at Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Photo courtesy of Government of PEI*

Curated by the PEI Museum & Heritage Foundation, with invaluable contributions from families of Black Islanders, this photo exhibition sheds light on the untold stories and significant contributions of the Black community on PEI over the past four centuries.

The Foundation received the 2024 National Trust Governors' Award for this exhibition.

The honour recognizes contributions to community, identity, cultural heritage and historic places. The award was presented at the National Trust's annual conference in Montreal.

Previously exhibited on the grounds of Beaconsfield from July to October 2024, we were excited to bring this National Trust Governors' Award-winning exhibit to Summerside! This panel exhibit was on display at Eptek Art & Culture Centre from January 10 to February 7, 2025.



*Black Islanders Exhibition panels displayed at Beaconsfield Historic House, 2024  
Photo courtesy of Government of PEI*

# EXHIBITIONS

*Foundation Hosted*

## **As the Crow Flies Collaboration with the Lady Slipper Rug Hooking Guild and Island-wide artists**

**(Eptek Art & Culture Centre, June 14 – Sept 27)**

"As the Crow Flies" was a collection of artworks featuring and inspired by crows and a "crows eye view." This group exhibit was curated in collaboration with the Lady Slipper Rug Hooking Guild. The exhibit featured work by over 50 Island artists in a wide range of mediums, including oil and watercolour, wooden sculpture, weaving and quilting, traditional quill work, and – of course – rug hooking!

## **Turning Point PEI with Woodturner's Guild (Eptek Art & Culture Centre, October 8 – November 15)**

"Turning Point" with work from the PEI Wood Turners Guild was on display from October 8th to November 15th, with an official opening event held on Sunday, October 20th. The exhibit explores a myriad of things that can be made on a wood turning lathe. During this exhibit, The PEI Wood Turners guild held several free wood turning demonstrations (October 20th from 1 – 3:30pm, November 3rd from 1 – 3pm, and November 15th from 12:30 – 3:30pm). A special focus of this exhibit was in memory of Graham Goodwin, as well as the work that he helped to inspire.



*Turning Point Exhibit  
Eptek Art & Culture Centre*

## **Remembering Mi'kmaq Veterans**

**(Eptek Art & Culture Centre, October - December 20)**

Our annual Remembrance Day exhibit, in collaboration with Greg Gallant of the PEI Regiment Museum, was on view in the lobby throughout the fall. Each autumn, Eptek collaborates with local historians on a lobby exhibit focusing on local Summerside veterans and their stories. This year's exhibit highlighted Indigenous veterans from PEI. This important annual collaboration is made possible by the generous loans of artifacts and sharing of stories by Greg Gallant of the PEI Regiment Museum.

## **Of Growing Concern: 40 Years of Textile Creation Amid the Havoc of Climate Change (Eptek Arts & Culture Centre, March 3 – April 7, 2024):**

This exhibit is a retrospective of Jane Meredith Whitten's creative practice experimenting with textiles in response to her surroundings. Her use of traditional techniques in non-traditional ways, often with unexpected materials, creates works that engage viewers to think and rethink about the impact of climate change and the urgency of taking action.

The exhibition was accompanied by a series of basketry workshops and Makers Sessions. This project is made possible thanks to the generous support of Innovation PEI through the PEI Arts Grants.

## **Nature PEI's Species-at-Risk Exhibit**

**(Orwell Corner Historic Village, displayed May, June, September)**

We partnered with Nature PEI to host their traveling exhibition focused on endangered species native to Prince Edward Island. The exhibit was installed at Orwell Corner and included bilingual content. A bear mandible from the Museum's collection was loaned to support the display.



# EXHIBITIONS

*Foundation Hosted*

## **The Bog Tour**

**(Beaconsfield Historic House, May to October)**

In the summer 2024, Beaconsfield Historic House began offering the Bog Tour, a walking tour focusing on the history of the Black community in Charlottetown. The tour has been well attended and paved the way for increased Bog Tours in the future.

## **A Retrospective of the Folk Art of Kerras Jeffery**

**(Eptek Arts & Culture Centre, April 16 – May 17)**

"A Retrospective of the Folk Art of Kerras Jeffery" was on display in the main gallery from April 16 to May 17, 2024. Whether it's the double-headed pig carvings, iconic bucket ladies, buoy fish, wily wide-mouthed fox, or any of his other hand-carved characters, Kerras Trent Jeffery (1966-2017) was known for his creative, playful spirit. Kerras Jeffery was one of the leading folk artists of his generation in eastern Canada, and operated Back Road Folk Art in Alma, P.E.I., for 20 years. All his creations were made from repurposed materials, and his playful sculptures continue to be collected across Canada and internationally.



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
The Folk Art of Kerras Jeffery Exhibit*



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
Arnold Smith's Collection of Historic, Vintage, and Reproduction Clothing  
Opening Reception*

## **Arnold Smith's Collection of Historic, Vintage, and Reproduction Clothing: A Personal Clothing Collection Spanning 35 Years**

**(Eptek Art & Culture Centre, February 18 – March 28)**

Officially on display February 18th, "Arnold Smith's Collection of Historic, Vintage & Reproduction Clothing" is a showcase of the wide range of garments Arnold Smith has created and acquired over the past 35 years. This exhibit featured garments inspired by Lucy Maud's wedding trousseau, some incredibly gorgeous antique wedding gowns, and more. An opening reception was held on Sunday, February 23rd. Arnold also hosted a workshop on "Tips and Tricks to Making Reproduction Clothing" on Sunday, March 9th.

## **The Island Aglow with Kimberly Roach**

**(Eptek Art & Culture Centre, May 1 – June 2)**

The Eptek Lobby exhibit for the month of May was "The Island Aglow" by Kimberly Roach. This collection of new pastel artwork reflects the artist's love and appreciation of her Island home, wildflowers, and the beauty of our natural landscapes.

# EXHIBITIONS

*Foundation Hosted*

## **Aquaculture: Farming the Waters (Basin Head Fisheries Museum, permanent display installed June 2024)**

Originally on display at Eptek Art & Culture Centre, this exhibit presents a bilingual overview of the origins and development of Prince Edward Island's aquaculture industry. It highlights early challenges, contributions of Indigenous Peoples, and the sector's growth into a multimillion-dollar enterprise. Equipment used in the industry is also featured.

## **Chromatic Wilderness with Chester Hewlett (Eptek Art & Culture Centre, February 4 – February 28)**

The Lobby exhibit for the month of February was "*Chromatic Wilderness*" by Chester Hewlett. Originally from Ghana, Chester Hewlett's interdisciplinary practice has graced multiple galleries across PEI, and this exhibition highlights a connection between art and the natural world. Known for fusing human experience with striking visual and chromatic creations, Chester brings a fresh lens to landscapes, flora, and ecosystems. In this exhibition, Chester celebrates nature's beauty in a colourful and dynamic way.

## **The Creator's Gift: A Group Exhibit of Mi'kmaq Artists (Eptek Art & Culture Centre, November 26 – February 7)**

Officially on display Nov 26th was a collection of artworks created by several Mi'kmaq artists. "*The Creator's Gift*" was an immersive artistic experience through quillwork, basketry, jewelry, drum-making, and more. An opening reception was held on Sunday, December 8, 2024. This free event had refreshments, snacks and entertainment graciously provided by the Lennox Island Mi'kmaq Culture Centre.

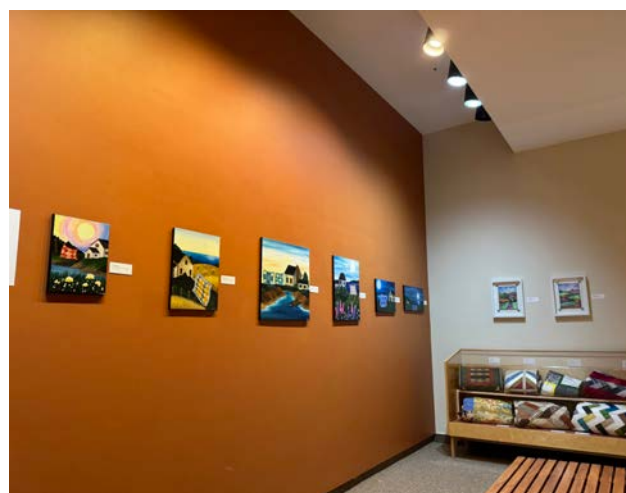
## **Artist's Choice Kensington Artist Co-operative**

**(Eptek Arts & Culture Centre, April 2 – 30)**

The featured artwork reflects the title of the exhibit, with a combination of styles, mediums, and subjects on display from each individual artist. The Kensington Artist Co-operative comprises over 20 artist members and operates a seasonal gallery in Kensington, Prince Edward Island, from June to September.

## **Patchwork Story with Katelynn Kelly (Eptek Art & Culture Centre, March 4 – March 30)**

The lobby exhibit for the month of March featured the artwork of Summerside artist, Katelynn Kelly. Her "*Patchwork Story*" exhibit featured acrylic and watercolour paintings that speak to the love language of quilting and the interconnectedness of family, female bonds, and shared creativity. The "*Patchwork Story*" is a series Katelynn began in 2020; she considers it to be a love letter to home and to the long line of women who helped shape her to be who she is today.



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
Patchwork Story with Katelynn Kelly - Lobby Exhibit*



# EXHIBITIONS

*Foundation Hosted*

**Dix million de pas / 10 Million Steps**  
**(Acadian Museum of PEI, October 15, 2023 to April 28, 2024)**

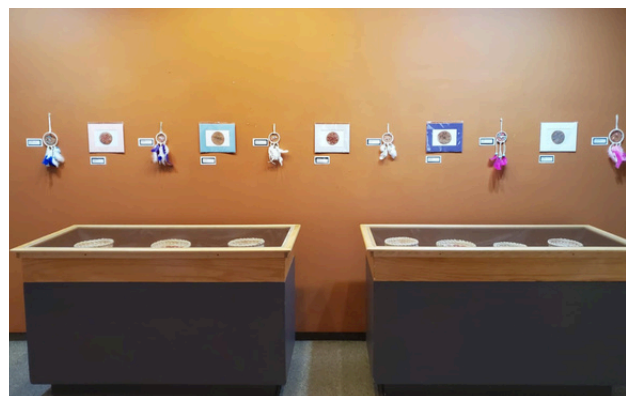
This exhibition was created in collaboration with Henry "Hank" Gallant, the first person to walk the TransCanada Highway from coast to coast in 1967.

**Acadiennes: Voix de la génération silencieuse / Voices of the Silent Generation**  
**(Acadian Museum of PEI, May 5 to June 30, 2024):** Traveling exhibition by Stella d'Entremont on Acadian women from the Maritimes, featuring five Acadian women from PEI.

**Dans le gornier de Mémé / In Mémé's attic**  
**(Acadian Museum of PEI, July 5, 2024 to January 30, 2025):** Exhibition featuring textiles and textile-related equipment and furniture from the Museum's own collection.

**GeniéArtsSmarts**  
**(Eptek Arts & Culture Centre, May 21 – June 2)**

The annual ArtsSmarts exhibition was on display from May 21st to June 2nd, showcasing student art projects from various schools across the Island. GénieArts allows teachers and artists of all arts disciplines to collaborate with students on original projects linked to curriculum outcomes. The program follows a model that allows teachers to encourage students' motivation and engagement in their learning. An opening reception was held on Tuesday, May 28th.



*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
 KISH Student Artwork Exhibit*

**KISH ART 401 A Collection of Student Artwork**

**(Eptek Art & Culture Centre, January 10 – February 7)**

A selection of student artwork from Kensington Intermediate Senior High Art 401 class. This artwork directly links to the main gallery exhibition, *"The Creator's Gift,"* as the students were taught by the lead artist Noella Moore.

The students created dream catchers, quill art, and woven reed baskets. This exhibit has also been added to, with the inclusion of visiting school groups the week prior to the Pilot Project with the Dept. of Education. Artwork features plasticine artwork by Greenfield Elementary Grades 2 A & B as well as École-sur-Mer Grade 3.

*Eptek Art & Culture Centre  
 GenieArtsSmarts Exhibit*



# 2025 *Heritage Awards*

The PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation Heritage Awards are presented each year to individuals or groups in recognition of their contribution to heritage on Prince Edward Island.

## *Heritage Awards*

### *Volunteer of the Year Award*

**Claude Henry Arsenault**

for his exceptional service to the archeology of Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk

### *Natural Heritage Activity Award*

**Julie-Lynn Zahavich**

for her achievements in preserving, engaging and educating others on the natural heritage of Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk

### *Creative Publication of the Year Award*

**Barbara Palmer Rousseau**

for her important and timely book, Finding Home at the Harbour

### *Academic Publication of the Year Award*

**Dr. Alan MacEachern**

for Becoming Green gables

### *Mary Cornfoot Brehaut Award*

**Jenny McQuaid**

for her dedication to preserving and sharing Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk heritage and genealogy

### *Architectural Conservation Project of the Year Award*

**Under the Spire**

for preserving and promoting the architectural heritage of Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk

### *Wendall Boyle Memorial Award*

**Heritage Players**

for preserving the Island's history through collecting and archiving stories and genealogies of Black Islanders



# *2025 Heritage Awards(cont.)*

## *Award of Honour*

**Doug Sobey**

*for his lifetime of work dedicated to researching and sharing the human and natural history of Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk*

## *Catherine Hennessey Heritage Activism Award*

**MacKenzie Cutcliffe**

*for her work in sharing Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk literary heritage, and for centering Mi'kmaq voices in discussions on land and rights*

## *Boyde Beck Memorial Award*

**Caeley Currie**

*for her outstanding work in public programming and storytelling*

## *Heritage Recognition Awards*

**Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative**

*for their work in protecting the wildlife of Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk*

**Jennifer Stenhouse**

*for her services to natural history and environmental education on Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk*

**Hanna Wylie**

*for her work on Smalltown Lore*

**Confederation Centre of the Arts/Parks Canada**

*for their work on the Confederation Chamber Replica*

## *Heritage Recognition Awards (cont.)*

### **Benevolent Irish Society of PEI**

for their work in renewing the St Anne's Church Cemetery, Emyvale

### **Sylvia MacPhail & Larry Gaudet**

for their restoration of the property at 11 Nelson Street, Victoria

### **Jacques & Janet Cyr**

for their restoration of the property at 27 Main Street, Victoria

### **Kara Griffin**

for bringing us Flitt's Call

### **Carter Jeffery & Arnold Smith**

for their continued efforts to collect and promote the artist, Kerras Jeffery

### **Dr. Allan MacRae**

for his extensive genealogical research

### **Denis Gallant**

for his dedication to nature conservation

### **Town of Stratford Heritage Sub Committee**

for their work in memorializing the service of Canadians in both World Wars



# 04 *Donations*

In 2024-25, 43 cultural or material objects were added to the Provincial Collection. If you have an item that you think should be part of the collection, please visit our website or contact our Registrar at [mepreston@gov.pe.ca](mailto:mepreston@gov.pe.ca) to be guided through the process.

The Foundation would like to thank the generous donors who contributed to the collection, including:

- **Helen Bartlett**
- **Adrianne Balcom**
- **Pat Brunet**
- **Kathleen Ross and Mary-Lynne Burvels**
- **Tom Burrows**
- **Philip Burge**
- **Don and Peter Coutts**
- **Tanya Craig**
- **Ada and Stuart Drummond**
- **Logan Fulford**
- **Fultz Corner Restoration Society**
- **Greg Gallant**
- **Tracey Hagan O'Connor**
- **Beverly Hubbard**
- **Ann Howatt**
- **Samantha Kelly**
- **Ryan Knight and Ryan Fitzpatrick**
- **Nicholas Longaphy**
- **Jason MacNeil**
- **Laura MacNeil**
- **Carol MacMillian**
- **Sherry MacLeod**
- **Ellen MacPhail**
- **Jason Woodside**
- **Matthew McRae**
- **Dr. Heather Morrison**
- **Wayne Noonan**
- **Heather Ogg**
- **Paula Rein**
- **Jim Sanders**
- **Priscilla Sharkey**
- **Frank Stewart**
- **Don Stewart**
- **Alice Sutherland**
- **Anne Tingley**
- **Andrew Whelan**
- **Jean Willison**
- **Westbank Museum**
- **Friends of Eastern Kings Heritage Inc.**
- **Anita Price**

## *Endowment Trust*

The Endowment Trust Fund is managed for the benefit of the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation. Each year, a small amount of the income earned by the Trust is used by the Foundation on special projects. Decisions about the Trust are made by a committee consisting of the provincial Minister of Justice, the Chief Justice for PEI, and the Chair of the Board of Governors of the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation.

The Endowment Trust Committee met on May 22, 2024, and determined to withdraw \$69,000 from the Trust. The funds helped support a contract extension for the Foundation's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, and the hiring of a Sales and Marketing Coordinator. Money was also set aside for paying an editor and for copy-editing services for *The Island Magazine*, the Foundation's official publication. Other projects supported by the Trust included the Black Islanders photo exhibition, Fall and Christmas programming at Beaconsfield Historic House and Orwell Corner Historic Village and small-scale capital repairs at various of the Foundation's sites. Finally, funds were set aside in order to provide honourariums to individuals collaborating with the Foundation to develop content, hold events and deliver programming.



## CAPITAL PROJECTS

Throughout the 2024–2025 fiscal year, the PEI Museum & Heritage Foundation undertook a series of infrastructure upgrades across its sites and facilities to improve environmental controls, visitor experience, and long-term preservation of collections.

At the **Collections Facility**, multiple improvements were made to enhance storage conditions and operational efficiency. Leaking pipes and sprinkler valves at 77 Watts Avenue were repaired, and the thermostats were reset to stabilize climate control. The phone lines were restored, and a wasp nest was removed from the shed. At 55 Watts Avenue, the roof was repaired, leaks around an interior chimney were addressed, and the bay door and locks were fixed. The resource library was relocated to the Curator's office, creating space for reorganized filing cabinets to better manage donor records. Staff also began researching environmental control systems for future retrofitting of the facility.

The **Acadian Museum of PEI** underwent significant upgrades, including a temporary closure in the fall to allow for cleaning and repairs to the ductwork system. Repairs to the heating system continued while awaiting full HVAC replacement. In March 2025, the sound system was updated. A RE-ORG project was also completed in the artifact repository, supported by the Museums Assistance Program and facilitated by external consultants.

At **Beaconsfield Historic House**, infrastructure improvements focused on climate control and energy efficiency. These included upgrades to basement drainage and humidity management, installation of new interior and exterior lighting, and replacement of two furnaces along with associated components such as captive air tanks, switches, and water pumps. Heat pumps were installed on all three floors of Beaconsfield, resulting in increased energy efficiency and increased comfort and safety for both staff and visitors. The Carriage House also received enhanced sound, electrical, and lighting systems.





## CAPITAL PROJECTS

*(continued)*

At **Elmira Railway Museum**, the gravel roadway for the new trackless miniature train was completed and an existing building was renovated to house the train, expanding the site's interpretive offerings. We wish to thank the Friends of Eastern Kings Heritage, who applied for funding and managed this project.

The **Eptek Art & Culture Centre** saw extensive upgrades. Exterior signage damaged by Hurricane Fiona was replaced in June 2024. Electrical improvements included installation of LED lighting in the storage, kitchen, and back areas, replacement of gallery lighting endcaps, and a full inspection of electrical boxes, which revealed and resolved improper connections. The doorbell was relocated to improve functionality, and adjustments were made to projector and media systems. The electrical contractor worked closely with staff to address concerns and ensure minimal disruption to gallery operations.

At **Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House**, heat pumps were installed in both the Shipbuilding Museum and Yeo House, providing improved heating and air conditioning throughout the year, improving the experience of staff and visitors alike.

At **Orwell Corner Historic Village**, several buildings received upgrades. New cedar roofs were installed on the School House and Community Hall bathroom area. The Clarke House/Store underwent extensive plaster repairs and a full repainting of the upstairs. Major repairs were also completed to the barn and work began on building a Foundation for the historic Taylor House, which was at risk of eventual collapse without the work.

At the **Kensington Locomotive**, engine 1762 was repainted so that it could continue to serve as a memorial to the Island's railway, and its importance to the growth of towns such as Kensington.

The Foundation is extremely grateful for the Province's continued support of our capital spending program. The capital budget of \$300,000 has helped us make much-needed repairs to the Foundation's aging infrastructure, as well as important upgrades. We look forward to continuing this important work in coming years.

# 05 GOVERNMENT HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT 2024-2025 CHAIR'S REPORT

*The following are the highlights of what took place at Government House during the past year.*

This year was the last year of Her Honour Antoinette Perry's term. Members of the committee bid her farewell at the September 21, 2024, meeting. As of October 7, the new Lieutenant Governor was Dr. Wassim Salamoun.

## *Staffing*

As discussed previously with Public Works, the position of Head Groundskeeper was not filled and the workload was shared by Keith Fraser, James Hemphill and Justin Ellands. Justin was replaced mid-summer by Amanda Madrigrano. They worked under the supervision of Jonathan Gauthier. Mowing of the property was contracted out.

## *Public events*

The public was once again allowed to have bilingual guided tours of the House; the guides were Anna Mae MacLeod and Roisin Mullen. They welcomed a total of 2,227 visitors to the house during July and August – 1,861 tours were given in English and 366 in French. Numbers seem to be about the same year to year.

The gardens remain very popular with Islanders and visitors. The labels identifying the various plants are also a much-appreciated feature.

The annual Garden Party was well attended with weather cooperating. Entertainment was provided by the Prince Edward Island Regiment Band. Attendance was 420, an increase over the previous year (354).

On August 21, Her Honour Antoinette Perry hosted a barbecue to thank all the volunteers who had helped her carry her duties as Lieutenant Governor.

Christmas Open House and New Year's Day Levee were well attended as per usual.



## *Government House Committee*

The Committee is composed of His Honour, Dr. Wassim Salamoun, Monique Lafontaine (Chair), Donald Stewart (Vice-Chair), Monica Gilks (Museum and Heritage Foundation), Samatha Kelly and Lesley Fraser (Museum Foundation), Natalie Munn (City of Charlottetown), Derryl MacDonald (Public Works), Linda Berko, Paula Kenny, Sharon Larter, and Arnold Smith (members at large).

## *Garden Subcommittee*

The subcommittee is operating smoothly. It is chaired by Monique Lafontaine and other members are Shelley McEwen, Heidi Riley, Michael Bergeron, Jonathan Gauthier, and Krista Rodd as secretary. Both Shelley McEwen and Heidi Riley have years of expertise and have also been volunteering their time to coordinate the planting of the beds and their weekly maintenance. Other volunteers help on a regular basis.

Because of plant substitutions for the Platinum Jubilee Garden, we had to remove some of the invasive plants we were sent and not replace them for a least one summer to make sure we have eliminated them completely.

## *House Maintenance*

In preparation for the arrival of the new Lieutenant Governor, major renovations of the private living quarters were done. This had not been done in at least 15 years. Part of the roof is scheduled to be redone starting in May.

## *In conclusion*

I would like to thank Her Honour for her dedication as well as Holly Hinds, Linda Berko, and Carolyn McKillop for their contributions to the workings of the Government House Committee and for the members of the House Committee and the Garden Subcommittee. I am also grateful to Cindy Cheverie and the staff of Government House for their invaluable assistance.



Monique Lafontaine  
Chair of the Government House Committee

# **Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation**

Financial Statements  
**March 31, 2025**

## Management's Report

The integrity, relevance and comparability of the data in the accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of management.

The financial statements are prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. A summary of the significant accounting policies is disclosed in note 2 to the financial statements. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current period cannot be finalized with a certainty until future periods.

To meet its responsibility, management maintains a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and reliable financial information is available on a timely basis for preparation of the non-consolidated financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

Management is accountable to the Board of Directors of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation on matters of financial reporting and internal control. Management provides the Board of Directors with externally audited financial statements annually. The Board also discusses any significant financial reporting or internal control matters prior to their approval of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been audited by ArsenaultBestCameronEllis, independent external auditors appointed by the Board. The accompanying Independent Auditor's Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination and their opinion on the non-consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fiep de Bie  
Chair





July 3, 2025

**Independent Auditor's Report**

**To the Board of Governors of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation**

***Qualified Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, changes in accumulated surplus, remeasurement gains, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation as at March 31, 2025, and the results of its operations, remeasurement gains and losses, changes in net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

***Basis for Qualified Opinion***

In common with many charitable organizations, Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation derives revenue from admissions, special events, donations, and other activities, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenue, annual surplus (deficit) and cash flows from operations for the years ended March 31, 2025 and March 31, 2024, financial assets as at March 31, 2025 and March 31, 2024, and accumulated surplus as at April 1 and March 31 for both the 2025 and 2024 years. Our audit opinion for the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2024 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

**Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation's financial reporting process.





***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*ArsenaultBestCameronEllis*

Chartered Professional Accountants

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Assets (note 10)</b>		
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Cash	125,495	35,570
Accounts receivable (notes 3 and 13)	267,640	196,724
Investments (note 4)	1,243,753	1,255,711
	<u>1,636,888</u>	<u>1,488,005</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (notes 5 and 13)	510,244	476,093
Deferred revenue (note 7)	1,440	1,696
	<u>511,684</u>	<u>477,789</u>
<b>Net financial assets</b>	<u>1,125,204</u>	<u>1,010,216</u>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>		
Inventory (note 8)	38,207	44,370
Tangible capital assets (schedule)	577,053	596,018
	<u>615,260</u>	<u>640,388</u>
<b>Accumulated surplus</b>	<u>1,740,464</u>	<u>1,650,604</u>
<b>Accumulated surplus consists of</b>		
Accumulated surplus (notes 9 and 10)	1,530,676	1,440,396
Accumulated remeasurement gains	209,788	210,208
	<u>1,740,464</u>	<u>1,650,604</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors

 Board Chair

(3)

 Director



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Changes in Accumulated Surplus

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Accumulated surplus - Beginning of year	1,440,396	1,464,292
Annual surplus (deficit)	90,280	(23,896)
Accumulated surplus - End of year	1,530,676	1,440,396

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	(unaudited) Budget \$	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Revenues</b>			
Province of Prince Edward Island - operating grants (notes 11 and 13)	1,651,400	2,024,035	1,836,012
Government of Canada grant (note 12)	40,000	107,258	60,010
Memberships and donations	30,000	18,071	79,651
Admissions and special events	296,200	344,937	279,564
Publishing	7,500	8,970	7,033
Investment income	30,000	57,259	45,465
Other income	61,800	61,794	64,057
	<u>2,116,900</u>	<u>2,622,324</u>	<u>2,371,792</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Artifact collection and equipment	1,500	43,131	29,152
Provincial projects (note 11)	200,000	207,451	148,924
Federal project (note 12)	45,000	90,499	137,368
Insurance, taxes and interest	18,000	18,533	18,099
Inventory	-	163	-
Lease	49,800	58,172	49,805
Office	43,200	36,986	40,292
Other operating expenses	98,300	121,492	90,723
Public programs	58,000	62,324	83,410
Publishing	-	6,067	12,396
Repairs and maintenance	50,000	226,398	92,850
Travel	16,000	15,258	15,824
Utilities	128,300	96,662	101,501
Wages and benefits (note 14)	1,675,000	1,659,802	1,650,732
Bad debts	-	4,430	-
	<u>2,383,100</u>	<u>2,647,368</u>	<u>2,471,076</u>
<b>Operating deficit</b>	<u>(266,200)</u>	<u>(25,044)</u>	<u>(99,284)</u>
<b>Other revenue (expense)</b>			
Province of Prince Edward Island - capital grant (notes 11 and 13)	-	154,348	137,126
Amortization	-	(18,965)	(75,780)
Accretion expense	-	(20,059)	(18,335)
ARO adjustment	-	-	32,377
	<u>-</u>	<u>115,324</u>	<u>75,388</u>
<b>Annual surplus (deficit)</b>	<u>(266,200)</u>	<u>90,280</u>	<u>(23,896)</u>

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Remeasurement Gains

For the year ended March 31, 2025

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	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Accumulated remeasurement gains - Beginning of year</b>	210,208	147,539
<b>Unrealized gains attributable to:</b>		
Equity investments	14,224	71,421
<b>Amounts reclassified to the statement of operations:</b>		
Investment income	(14,644)	(8,752)
<b>Accumulated remeasurement gains - End of year</b>	<u>209,788</u>	<u>210,208</u>



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	(unaudited) Budget \$	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Net financial assets - Beginning of year</b>	1,010,216	1,010,216	900,632
Changes in year			
Annual surplus (deficit)	(266,200)	90,280	(23,896)
Unrealized gains	-	14,224	71,421
Unrealized gains transferred to investment income	-	(14,644)	(8,752)
Change in inventory	-	6,163	(4,969)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	18,965	75,780
<b>Change in net financial assets</b>	(266,200)	114,988	109,584
<b>Net financial assets - End of year</b>	744,016	1,125,204	1,010,216

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Annual surplus (deficit)	90,280	(23,896)
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization on tangible capital assets	18,965	75,780
Accretion expense	20,059	18,335
ARO adjustment	-	(32,377)
	129,304	37,842
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Increase in accounts receivable	(70,916)	(105,932)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	14,092	9,931
Decrease in deferred revenue	(256)	(8,099)
Decrease (increase) in inventory	6,163	(4,969)
	78,387	(71,227)
<b>Investing activity</b>		
Decrease (increase) in investments	11,538	(129,284)
<b>Change in cash</b>	89,925	(200,511)
<b>Cash - Beginning of year</b>	35,570	236,081
<b>Cash - End of year</b>	125,495	35,570

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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## 1 Nature of operations

The Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation is a corporate body established under the *Museum Act* whose purpose is to study, collect, preserve, interpret and protect the human and natural heritage of Prince Edward Island for the use, benefit and enjoyment of the people of the Province.

The Museum is a registered charitable organization under the federal *Income Tax Act* and is exempt from taxation.

## 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

### Basis of accounting

The financial statements of the Foundation have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board of CPA Canada. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these statements.

### Cash

Cash includes cash on hand and balances on deposit at banks.

### Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recorded at cost less an appropriate provision when collection is in doubt.

### Inventory

Inventory held for resale including books, magazines and gift store items are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. In the year of publishing, 10 percent of the original value is written down, if published in the first half of the fiscal year. A write down in the first year is not applied if published in the second half of the fiscal year. Books and magazines published by the Foundation are written down by 20 percent of their original value annually to approximate net realizable value.

### Investments

Equity investments quoted in an active market are recorded at fair value. All other investments are valued at cost or amortized cost less any write-down associated with a loss in value that is other than a temporary decline.

### Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities are recorded for all amounts due for work performed and goods or services received during the year.

### Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue represents revenue received for subscriptions and books for which expenditures will occur beyond the year end date. Revenue is recognized in the period in which the expenditures occur.



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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## Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost, which includes amounts that are directly related to the acquisition, design, construction, development, improvement or betterment of the assets. Cost includes overhead directly attributable to construction and development. Interest is not capitalized. Assets less than \$5,000 are expensed during the year.

The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land, is amortized on a straight-line basis over their useful lives as follows:

Buildings	25 years
Equipment	5 years
Leaseholds	5 years
Vehicles	5 years

Amortization is calculated at one-half of the normal annual rate in the year of acquisition; no amortization is recorded in the year of disposal.

Contributed capital assets are recorded at the estimated value at the time of donation. Estimate value is determined using appraised value, if available, or tax assessed value.

The Foundation holds numerous works of art, artifacts, and historical treasures. The nature of these items include: material culture from Mi'kmaq ethno-historic and pre-contact archaeological household articles; 18th, 19th and 20th century Canadian furniture; textiles which includes clothing, rugs, tools and marine artifacts. The Foundation also holds a large body of archival documents which includes maps, paintings, drawings, photographs and books. These works of art are reported at a nominal value of \$1.

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate that they no longer contribute to the ability to provide goods or services, or when the value of future economic benefits associated with the tangible capital assets are less than their net book value.

## Liability for asset retirement obligation

Asset retirement obligations (AROs) are provisions for legal obligations for the cost of remediating the Province's tangible capital assets that are in productive use or not in productive use. The legal obligation giving rise to an ARO can be a product of any of the following regulations set by governments or regulatory bodies, contracts, legislation or promissory estoppel.

An ARO is recognized when the following criteria have been met:

- there is a legal obligation to incur retirement costs;
- there was a past transaction/event has occurred;
- expected to give up future economic benefits;
- a reasonable estimate of the ARO liability can be made.

The estimated liability is the estimated cash flows required to settle the retirement obligation. The liability is recorded in the period in which an obligation arises and is included as accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the statement of financial position.

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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For assets that are still in productive use, there is a corresponding increase to the carrying value of the related asset. If the asset is still in productive use and is not recorded, the ARO cost is expensed in the period. For assets that are no longer in productive use, the ARO cost is expensed in the period. For assets fully amortized, but still in productive use, the ARO cost is amortized over the period until which time it is estimated to be retired.

## Revenue recognition

Revenues are recognized in the period in which the transaction or event that gave rise to the revenue occurred, so long as the transaction can be reasonably measured and collection is reasonably assured. All revenues are recorded on an accrual basis, except when the accruals cannot be determined with a reasonable degree of certainty or when their estimation is impracticable.

Government grants (revenues from non-exchange transactions) are recognized as revenues when the transfer is authorized, any eligibility criteria are met and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

## Expenses

Expenses are reported on an accrual basis in the period in which the transaction or event which gave rise to the expense occurred.

## Financial instruments

The Foundation's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, investments and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

All financial assets other than equity investments are recorded at cost or amortized cost, less any provisions. Equity investments are valued at fair value and are categorized as level 1 for the purpose of describing the basis of the inputs used to measure fair value. Level 1 reflects unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Unrealized gains and losses from changes in the fair value of equity investments are recognized in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses. Upon settlement, the cumulative gain or loss is recognized in the statement of operations.

## Management estimates and judgments

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The following areas require significant estimates:

- The amount recorded regarding the allowance for possible credit losses is subject to management's assessment of the performance of the company's accounts receivable and investments;
- The amount recorded for amortization of tangible capital assets on the statement of operations is subject to management's assessment of the estimated useful life of the Foundation's tangible capital assets; and
- The recognized amounts of potential claims and liabilities depend on management's assessment of future costs and the probability these events will occur.



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

## 3 Accounts receivable

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Trade receivables	60,366	26,553
HST receivable	19,871	15,899
Government contribution receivable (note 13)	187,403	154,272
	<u>267,640</u>	<u>196,724</u>

## 4 Investments

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Investments at cost and amortized cost:</b>		
<b>Guaranteed investment certificates:</b>		
Duo Bank Canada, yield 2.07%, maturing October 20, 2025	40,000	40,000
CDN Westend Bank, yield 5.25%, maturing December 8, 2025	50,000	50,000
SBI Canada Bank, yield 2.57%, maturing December 23, 2025	60,000	60,000
General Bank of Canada, yield 2.11%, maturing April 29, 2026	35,000	35,000
ICICI Bank Canada, yield 2.10%, maturing April 29, 2026	35,000	35,000
VersaBank, yield 5.1%, maturing December 7, 2026	70,000	70,000
Fairstone Bank, yield 4.55%, maturing April 14, 2027	60,000	60,000
Equitable Bank, yield 5.15%, maturing June 29, 2027	20,000	20,000
CDN Western Bank, yield 4.65%, maturing April 17, 2028	60,000	60,000
Canadian Tire Bank, yield 4.53%, maturing February 2, 2029	66,500	66,500
Home Equity Bank, yield 4.53%, maturing February 2, 2029	66,500	66,500
Home Trust Bank, yield 4.53%, maturing February 2, 2029	66,500	66,500
Bank of Nova Scotia, yield 4.60%, maturing June 19, 2028	69,000	-
Canadian Western Trust, yield 1.9%, matured during the year	-	40,000
HSBC Bank Canada, yield 4.4%, matured during the year	-	60,000
General Bank of Canada, yield 2.58%, matured during the year	-	50,000
	<u>698,500</u>	<u>779,500</u>
<b>Souris Credit Union Shares</b>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
<b>Total investments at cost and amortized cost</b> (market value of investments \$712,564 (2024 - \$793,810))	<u>698,506</u>	<u>779,506</u>



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Equity investments at fair value:</b>		
<b>Mutual Funds</b>		
Russell US Equity Pool	93,576	96,533
Russell Overseas Equity Pool	11,617	16,372
RBC Investment Savings	85,068	12,213
	<u>190,261</u>	<u>125,118</u>
<b>Common shares</b>		
Bank of Nova Scotia	34,115	35,035
National Bank of Canada	30,880	29,656
Nutrien Ltd.	14,284	14,718
Power Corp of Canada	34,344	25,637
Toronto-Dominion Bank	31,043	29,430
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	50,108	42,507
Royal Bank of Canada	51,710	43,582
	<u>246,484</u>	<u>220,565</u>
<b>Foreign securities</b>		
Cisco Systems	24,418	18,585
Microsoft Corp.	62,115	70,905
Novo Nordisk	21,969	41,032
	<u>108,502</u>	<u>130,522</u>
<b>Total equity investments at fair value</b>	<u>545,247</u>	<u>476,205</u>
<b>Total investments</b>	<u>1,243,753</u>	<u>1,255,711</u>

## 5 Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Trade payables	73,730	51,440
Province of Prince Edward Island (note 13)	3,741	4,707
Payroll remittance	1,338	8,570
Asset retirement obligation (note 6)	431,435	411,376
	<u>510,244</u>	<u>476,093</u>

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

## 6 Asset retirement obligations

A significant part of asset retirement obligations results from the removal and disposal of designated substances such as asbestos from buildings. The measurement of the liability for asset retirement obligations is impacted by new information about activities required to settle the liability, the activities that settled all or part of the obligation, any changes in the legal obligation and any changes to the discount rate used in the measurement.

To estimate the liability for asbestos and other designated substances in buildings, assessment reports that include the type and quantity of the substances are used with experience and expert advice to determine the cost of retiring the substance. For buildings without an assessment, an estimate is based on the cost for similar buildings until more asset specific data is available.

The discount rate used in the asset retirement obligation calculation is 3.55% for the 2022 restated amounts, 4.31% for the 2023 restated amounts 4.88%, for the 2024 and 4.88% for the 2025 fiscal year. The estimated total undiscounted expenditures would be \$595,255 at the date of expected outlay with the estimated retirement year of 2038. The asset retirement obligations are primarily associated with the remediation of asbestos in buildings.

Below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending aggregate carrying amount of the liability:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>ARO liability - Beginning of year</b>	411,376	425,418
Accretion expense	20,059	18,335
Revisions in estimated costs	-	(32,377)
<b>ARO liability - End of year</b>	<u>431,435</u>	<u>411,376</u>

## 7 Deferred revenue

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Subscriptions	<u>1,440</u>	<u>1,696</u>

## 8 Inventory

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Publishing inventory - amortized cost	18,838	17,613
Gift shop/book inventory - at cost	<u>19,369</u>	<u>26,757</u>
	<u>38,207</u>	<u>44,370</u>

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

## 9 Accumulated surplus

Accumulated surplus consists of:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Unrestricted surplus (deficit)	(264,833)	(426,204)
Equity in tangible capital assets	577,053	596,018
Endowment fund assets (note 10)	1,258,420	1,270,582
	<u>1,530,676</u>	<u>1,440,396</u>

*Reconciliation of equity in tangible capital assets:*

Equity in tangible capital assets - Beginning of year	596,018	671,798
Amortization during the year	<u>(18,965)</u>	<u>(75,780)</u>
Equity in tangible capital assets - End of year	<u>577,053</u>	<u>596,018</u>

Equity in tangible capital assets represents the capital grants that have been received for the sole purpose of financing the Foundation's tangible capital asset additions. Equity in tangible capital assets will be reduced annually by the amortization expense associated with those tangible capital asset additions.

## 10 Endowment fund

The Endowment Fund is a component of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation. The Endowment Fund is a special purpose fund established by agreement between the Province of Prince Edward Island and the Foundation with the objective of preserving the historical heritage of the Province of Prince Edward Island. The investments, administration, and control of expenses of the Fund are governed by three Trustees:

- The Minister of the Department of Finance of the Province of Prince Edward Island;
- The Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island; and
- The Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Foundation.

The Trustees approve annually an allocation of the net income derived from the Fund investments to the Foundation for operations or capital projects that meet the objectives of the Foundation. The capital portion of the Fund may also be used for the benefit of the Foundation provided there is unanimous agreement by the Trustees and consent by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council, and provided the objectives of the Foundation are met. Normally, only the income from investments is expended. Any unspecified bequests received over \$5,000 are added to the Endowment Fund assets. Endowment Fund assets are included in the assets of the Foundation in the statement of financial position.



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Endowment fund assets - Beginning of year	1,270,582	1,192,448
Amounts reclassified to the statement of operations	(14,644)	(8,752)
Revenue	71,482	116,886
Transfer to unrestricted surplus	(69,000)	(30,000)
Endowment fund assets - End of year	1,258,420	1,270,582

Transfers of \$69,000 (2024 - \$30,000) from endowment fund assets to unrestricted surplus were approved by the board of directors.

Endowment fund assets are included in the following accounts on the statement of financial position:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash	609	567
Accounts receivable	14,064	14,310
Investments	1,243,747	1,255,705
	1,258,420	1,270,582

## 11 Grants - Province of Prince of Edward Island

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Operating grants:		
Department of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture - operating grant	1,804,887	1,705,745
Innovation PEI	36,000	19,725
Skills PEI	40,618	42,380
Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	76,547	34,613
Provincial Parks	65,983	33,549
	2,024,035	1,836,012
Capital grants:		
Department of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture - capital grant	154,348	137,126

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

Included in the \$1,804,887 (2024 - \$1,705,745) operating grant reported above is \$132,216 (2024 - \$188,778) for Provincial projects. Revenues and expenses for these projects are detailed as follows:

	Revenue \$	Expenses \$	2025 Net \$	2024 Net \$
<b>Project</b>				
Digitization - Collections	109,980	135,118	(25,138)	65,252
Edukits - Collections	22,236	72,333	(50,097)	(25,398)
	132,216	207,451	(75,235)	39,854

## 12 Government of Canada

	Revenue \$	2025 Expenses \$	Revenue \$	2024 Expenses \$
<b>Project</b>				
Canadian Museum Association				
Young Canada Works	23,174	22,625	36,483	34,343
Official Languages Support	84,084	67,874	23,527	103,025
	107,258	90,499	60,010	137,368

## 13 Related party transactions

The Foundation is a Provincial Government agency and as such is considered related to all entities in the government reporting entity.

Accounts receivable at year end includes \$187,403 (2024 - \$154,272) from the Province of Prince Edward Island. Accounts payable at year end includes \$3,741 (2024 - \$4,707) to the Province of Prince Edward Island.

Certain costs and assets provided by the Province of Prince Edward Island such as museum sites, operating and administrative costs, insurance and certain employee wages and benefit costs are assumed by the Province and are not reflected in the Foundation's financial statements.

Included in operating grants from the Province of Prince Edward Island were \$1,542,481 (2024 - \$1,524,254) for employee wages and benefits, \$379,151 (2024 - \$242,959) for other operating grants, and \$102,403 (2024 - \$68,799) for office and programming expenses. Capital grants received from the Province of Prince Edward Island during the year total \$154,348 (2024 - \$137,126).

Transactions with the Province of Prince Edward Island are recorded at amounts as determined by the Province.

The Foundation operates various properties owned by the Province of Prince Edward Island. The Foundation did not incur any expenses for capital repairs on these properties.

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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## 14 Employee future benefits

### Sick leave

Classified employees are credited 1.25 (excluded employees - 1.5) days per month for use as paid absence in the year, due to illness or injury. Under existing employment agreements employees are allowed to accumulate unused sick day credits each year, up to the allowable maximum. Accumulated credits may be used in future years to the extent that the employee's illness or injury exceeds the current years allocation. Accumulated sick days for sick leave compensation cease on termination of employment and there is no obligation to settle these amounts with cash payments. A liability has not been calculated and no accrual has been recorded in these financial statements. The related liability is recorded by the Province of Prince Edward Island. Salary expense is included in these financial statements.

### Pension

Permanent employees of the Foundation participate in the Province of Prince Edward Island's Civil Service Superannuation Plan (the Plan) which is a multi-employer contributory defined benefit pension plan. The Plan provides a pension on retirement based on two percent of the average salary for the highest three years times the number of years of pensionable service. The Plan is administered by the Province of Prince Edward Island. The Foundation's annual portion of contributions to the Plan was \$68,091 (2024 - \$71,830) and are paid by the Province of Prince Edward Island and recognized on the financial statements of the Province of Prince Edward Island. Any unfunded liability is the responsibility of the Province of Prince Edward Island and therefore no liability has been recognized in these financial statements.

### Retirement allowance

The Foundation provides a retirement allowance to its permanent employees. The amount paid to eligible employees at retirement is based on the number of years of service and the rate of pay in effect at the retirement date. The benefit costs and liabilities related to the allowance are assumed by the Province of Prince Edward Island and are not included in these financial statements.

## 15 Financial risk management objectives and policies

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation's principal business activities result in a statement of financial position that consists primarily of financial instruments. The principal financial risks that arise from transacting financial instruments include credit, liquidity, market and operational risk. Authority for all risk-taking activities rests with the Board of Directors (Board), which approves risk management policies, delegates' limits and regularly reviews management's risk assessments and compliance with approved policies. Qualified professionals throughout Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation manage these risks through comprehensive and integrated control processes and models, including regular review and assessment of risk measurement and reporting processes.



# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Foundation if a customer or counterparty of a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. Credit risk arises primarily from the Foundation's accounts receivable and investments.

The Foundation's maximum exposure to credit risk at the statement of financial position date in relation to each class of recognized financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets indicated in the statement of financial position. The maximum credit exposure does not take into account the value of any collateral or other security held, in the event other entities/parties fail to perform their obligations under the financial instruments in question.

The Foundation's maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date was:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Cash	125,495	35,570
Accounts receivable	267,640	196,724
Investments	1,243,753	1,255,711
	<u>1,636,888</u>	<u>1,488,005</u>

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Foundation may not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due. Specifically, the Foundation needs to ensure it has adequate resources to repay all accounts payable and accrued liabilities as they come due. The Foundation's approach to manage liquidity risk is to closely monitor its cash flows and forecast the expected receipts and obligations.

The Foundation's financial liabilities of \$78,809 are expected to be repaid within one year.

(c) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates and equity prices will affect the Foundation's income or the value of its holdings in financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimizing the return on risk.

The Foundation does not hold or operate in foreign currency and thus market risk is derived from interest rate and price risk. The Foundation is exposed to interest rate and price risk because of the investments held by the Foundation. The Foundation is not exposed to commodity price risk. To manage its price risk arising from marketable securities, the company diversifies its portfolio.

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

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## (d) Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss arising from a wide variety of causes associated with the Foundation's processes, personnel, technology and infrastructure, and from external factors other than credit, market and liquidity risks such as those arising from legal and regulatory requirements and generally accepted standards of corporate behaviour.

The Foundation's objective is to manage operational risk so as to balance the avoidance of financial losses and damage to the Foundation's reputation with overall cost effectiveness and to avoid control procedures that restrict initiative and creativity. The primary responsibility for the development and implementation of controls to address operational risk is assigned to senior management.

## 16 Lease commitments

The Foundation has entered into a five-year lease agreement to lease storage space at West Royalty Industrial Park commencing July 1, 2021. The lease expires on July 30, 2026. Lease payments over the next two years are as follows:

	\$
Year ending March 31, 2026	49,368
2027	16,456

## 17 Budgeted figures

Budgeted figures have been provided for comparative purposes and were derived from estimates approved by the board of governors.

# Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

## Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets

As at and for the year ended March 31, 2025

Schedule

	Cost			Accumulated amortization		2025
	Beginning \$	Additions \$	Ending \$	Beginning \$	Ending \$	Net book value \$
Land	21,608	-	21,608	-	-	21,608
Buildings	1,130,448	-	1,130,448	600,694	626,087	504,361
Equipment	38,430	-	38,430	38,105	37,388	1,042
Leaseholds	265,428	-	265,428	221,097	215,386	50,042
Vehicles	36,968	-	36,968	36,968	36,968	-
	1,492,882	-	1,492,882	896,864	915,829	577,053

	Cost			Accumulated amortization		2024
	Beginning \$	Additions \$	Ending \$	Beginning \$	Ending \$	Net book value \$
Land	21,608	-	21,608	-	-	21,608
Buildings	1,130,448	-	1,130,448	575,301	600,694	529,754
Equipment	38,430	-	38,430	30,419	38,105	325
Leaseholds	265,428	-	265,428	178,396	221,097	44,331
Vehicles	36,968	-	36,968	36,968	36,968	-
	1,492,882	-	1,492,882	821,084	896,864	596,018



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*As well as the dedicated volunteers at the  
Collections Facility and our seven museum and heritage sites!*

# STAY CONNECTED!

*Despite being in the position for over a decade, it wasn't until the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 that Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Heather Morrison became a well-recognised public figure on PEI. Appearing alongside Premier Dennis King at news briefings, Dr. Morrison provided reassuring leadership, signing off nearly every briefing with the words "be kind". This handmade doll was one of many gifts Dr. Morrison received from members of the public as a sign of their trust and gratitude.*



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PEI Museum and  
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