

PEI MUSEUM AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

PEI MUSEUM AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION

MUSÉE Î.-P.-É. ET FONDATION DU PATRIMOINE

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

MESSAGE TO THE MINISTER

Honourable Ernie Hudson

Minister of Fisheries, Rural Development, and Tourism

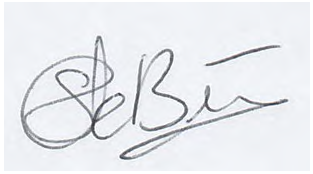
Dear Minister Hudson,

We are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation for the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

Thanks to ongoing support from the Province, the Foundation continued to deliver on its mandate and increase its community impact through new exhibitions, programs, partnerships, and community initiatives. This report reflects progress made across the Foundation and highlights the key projects, initiatives, and achievements that shaped our work over the past year.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, we remain dedicated to preserving and sharing the Island's heritage while building on progress and advancing our goal of creating inclusive, representative, and accessible spaces and experiences for all. We are thankful to the Province's continued support, particularly the $3 million allocated to preserving the Provincial Collection of material and cultural objects. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our collaboration with the Province in the year to come.

Respectfully submitted,



FIEP DE BIE
CHAIR



MATTHEW MCRAE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OVERVIEW

Vision

To help Island residents 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 Island residents 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.

Fun Fact

Our Digitization Team photographed over 13,800 objects during this reporting period alone!

Our Impact

The Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation continued to advance our mandate of preserving, researching, interpreting, and sharing the province's cultural and natural heritage. Through museums and cultural sites, educational programs, exhibitions, and community initiatives, the Foundation connected Island residents and visitors with the stories that shape Prince Edward Island.

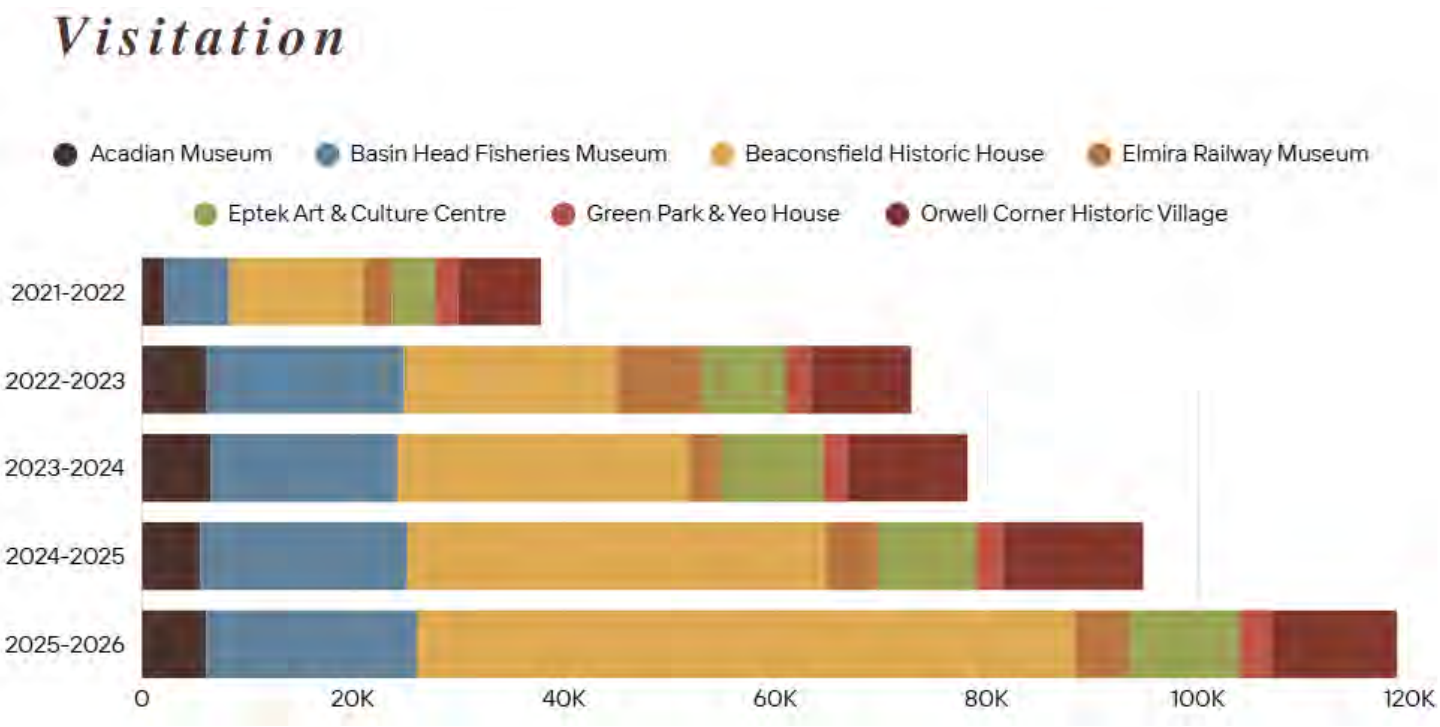
During the year, the Foundation strengthened stewardship of the Provincial Collection through acquisitions, conservation, digitization, and research support, while continuing to invest in the preservation of historic buildings and heritage infrastructure across our network.

The Foundation also expanded educational and public programming through partnerships with schools, Indigenous communities, cultural organizations, researchers, volunteers, and government agencies. Strong attendance across museum and culture sites, programs, events, and exhibitions reflect the public's continued interest in experiencing and learning about Island heritage.

Visitation

Tourism growth and strong public engagement were reflected in increased visitation to our seven sites, with total visitation reaching **118,794**. The Foundation's diverse calendar of exhibitions, events, educational programs, and visitor experiences continued to attract Island residents and visitors alike throughout the year.

1. **Acadian Museum of PEI**: 6,051 visitors
2. **Basin Head Fisheries Museum**: 19,922 visitors
3. **Beaconsfield Historic House & Carriage House**: 62,264 visitors
4. **Elmira Railway Museum**: 5,161 visitors
5. **Eptek Art & Culture Centre**: 10,494 visitors
6. **Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House**: 2,991 visitors
7. **Orwell Corner Historic Village**: 11,911 visitors



Digital Footprint

- Over **43,000 website visits** to www.peimuseum.ca
- **1,070** e-newsletter subscribers
- **12,177 Total Followers** for @heritagepei (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)
    - Followers: individuals who subscribe to the Foundation's social media accounts.
    - Please note that we deactivated our *X* account, and our overall follower count has dropped compared to last year as a result. Our follower count has increased on each of our currently active platforms.
- **1,564,527 Total Views** for @heritagepei (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)
    - Views: the number of times audience saw the Foundation's content.
- **27,600 downloads** *of* ***the hidden island*** **podcast**, by listeners from **44 countries**
- **22 episodes** of Hidden Island (formerly Island Digital Voices) available online, with over **16,000 views:** www.hiddenisland.ca

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITY

The PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation is a provincial crown corporation (schedule B) governed by a board of governors as outlined in the Museum Act. The board of governors is appointed through Engage PEI and the minister responsible is Minister of the Fisheries, Rural Development and Tourism.

The provincial heritage officer, in consultation with the Heritage Places Advisory Board and the Minister of Fisheries, Rural Development and Tourism, oversees the Provincial Heritage Recognition Program in accordance with the Heritage Places Protection Act. This program manages the PEI Register of Heritage Places, providing Heritage Incentive Grants, plaques and heritage permits to designated heritage places.

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:

(Chair) Fiep de Bie	2nd Term
Karen Mair	2nd Term
Jane Affleck	2nd Term
Gordon Lavoie	2nd Term
Joan Sinclair	2nd Term
Monica Gilks	2nd Term
Laura MacNeil	1st Term
Satya Sen	1st Term

YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2025–2026 fiscal year saw continued growth in public programming, collections stewardship, heritage preservation, educational programming, and community partnerships across the Foundation.

Collections, Curatorial, and Heritage Maintenance – Highlights

The Collections, Curatorial, and Heritage Maintenance team continued to strengthen and preserve the Provincial Collection through acquisitions, cataloguing, digitization, and research services. In 2025, 59 donations representing 422 objects were added to the collection, bringing the database to more than 83,800 records. The team supported researchers and heritage partners through collections access, research assistance, and loans to organizations across PEI, while also advancing preservation and maintenance work at Foundation heritage sites.

Education and Programming – Highlights

Educational and public programming reached thousands of Islanders through field trips, school outreach, experiential learning, and special events. The Foundation delivered 62 educational field trips for more than 5,000 students, expanded French-language and Black history programming, assisted with the presentation of six signature experiential programs across multiple sites, and strengthened partnerships with educational, cultural, tourism, and community organizations.

Heritage Officer & Services - Highlights

The 2026 Provincial Heritage Fair welcomed 216 students presenting 176 projects. More than 1,500 students participated in local heritage fairs across the province. Five heritage properties were added to the PEI Register of Heritage Places during the reporting period. The Community Museums Association continued to receive support through project and operational funding initiatives, including funding 14 projects to ten members of the Community Museums Association.

Museum and Cultural Sites – Highlights

Across our museum and cultural sites, we delivered exhibitions, educational programming, guided tours, cultural events, workshops, children’s summer camps, and community initiatives that engaged visitors throughout the province. Highlights included Acadian cultural programming, Indigenous programming at Basin Head Fisheries Museum, Elmira Railway Museum's 50th anniversary celebration, a diverse schedule of exhibitions and arts programming at Eptek Art & Culture Centre, as well as the return of Green Park's popular Yeo

House Ghost Tours, and the hugely successful Kids' Halloween Hauntacular at Orwell Corner Historic Village. We also saw continued success with seasonal experiential programming at Orwell Corner Historic Village and Beaconsfield Historic House. Major preservation, accessibility, and infrastructure improvements were also completed across multiple sites to support collections care, visitor experiences, and the long-term stewardship of heritage assets.

Staffing Summary

In 2025-2026, the Foundation was comprised of:

- 10 Classified Staff
- 3 Classified Part-Time Staff
- 9 Contract Staff
- 13 Casual Call Back Staff
- 2 EDA Staff
- 3 Part-Time Staff
- 54 Summer Students

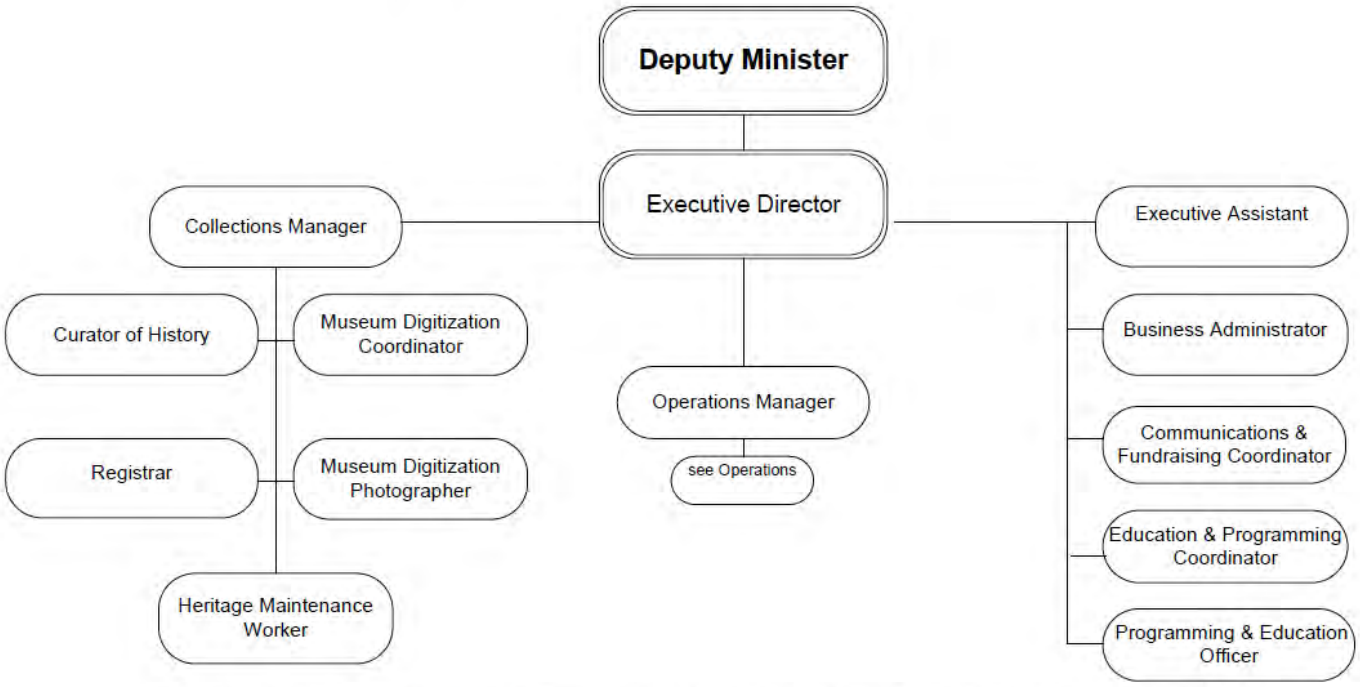
As a non-profit, the Foundation relies upon provincial and federal support to hire essential contract and summer staff. Support accessed includes programs such as Canada Summer Jobs, Propel, Young Canada Works, Jobs for Youth, UPEI International Student Support Program, Tourism HR Council, Cultural HR 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.

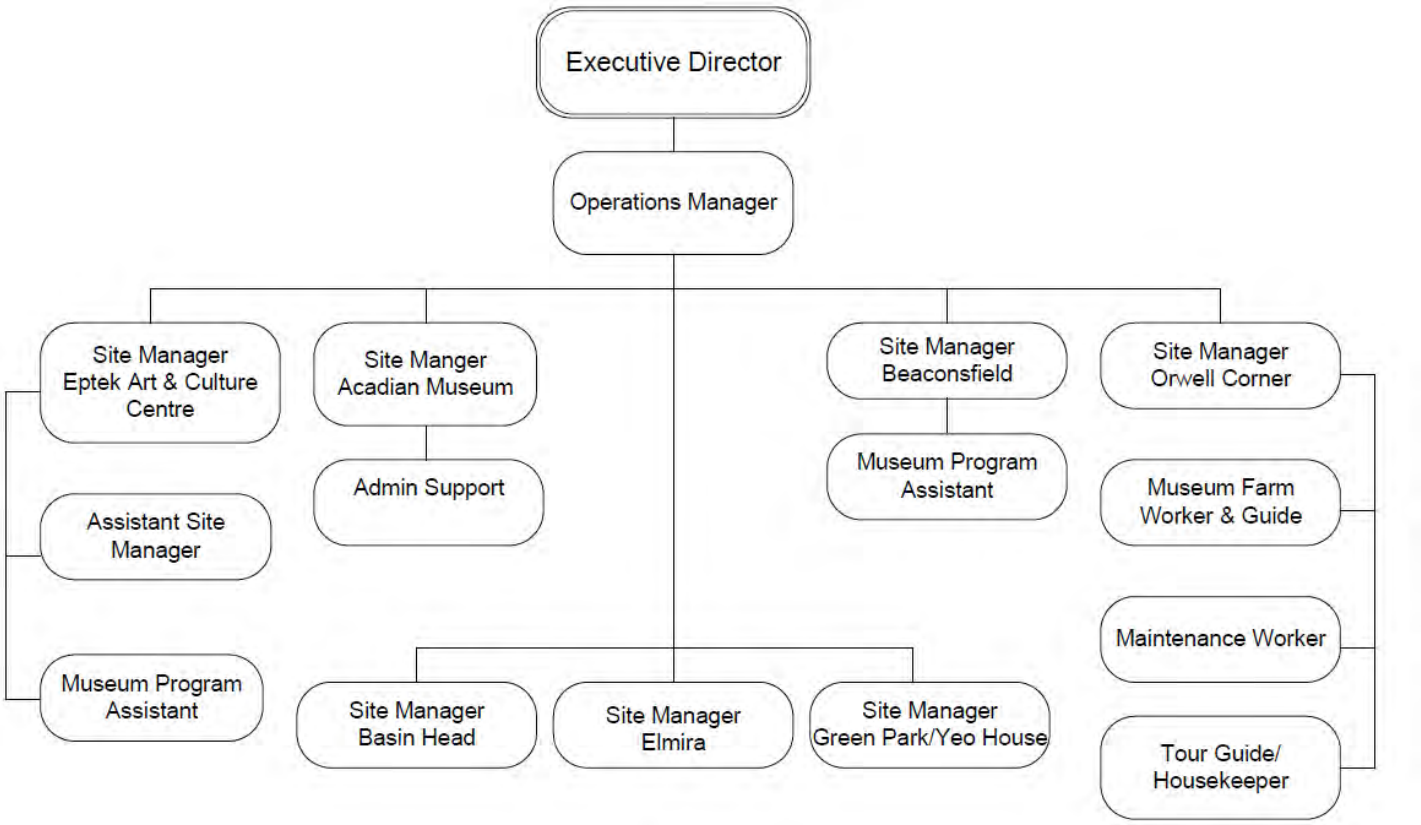
In early 2026, a new permanent position was added to the Foundation, "Operations Manager". This position reports to the Executive Director and works primarily out of Beaconsfield Historic House; key duties involve travelling between our museum and cultural sites to ensure operations are running smoothly and efficiently.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, RURAL DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
PEI MUSEUM AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, RURAL DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
PEI Museum & Heritage Foundation - Operations



ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING – OVERVIEW

Strategic Plan *2024-2028*

The Foundation's strategic plan is the product of an extensive review of the Foundation and our 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 development phase 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.

The full strategic plan (Appendix A) and detailed action plan can be found on our "About Us" webpage: https://www.peimuseum.ca/about-the-pei-museum-and-heritage-foundation

(or click here for the PDF).

Our Five Priorities

Priority 1: Collection, Preservation, and Research

The Foundation continued to strengthen the preservation, documentation, and interpretation of Prince Edward Island's human and natural history through responsible collections management, heritage conservation, research, and improved access to collections and heritage resources.

Priority 2: Inclusive and Welcoming for All

The Foundation advanced efforts to create inclusive, accessible, and representative experiences by amplifying diverse voices, strengthening community partnerships, and supporting reconciliation, accessibility, and belonging across its programs, exhibitions, and operations.

Priority 3: Audience and Community Engagement

The Foundation expanded opportunities for Island residents and visitors to engage with heritage through exhibitions, educational programming, experiential learning, public events, and community partnerships that foster curiosity, dialogue, and connections to Island history.

Priority 4: Governance and People

The Foundation worked to strengthen organizational capacity through workforce development, improved governance, enhanced stakeholder relationships, and ongoing efforts to modernize policies, processes, and internal collaboration.

Priority 5: Holistic Brand

The Foundation continued to build a cohesive provincial museum network by enhancing visitor experiences, strengthening brand awareness, promoting its sites and programs, and increasing access to heritage experiences for residents and visitors year-round.

DIVISION/PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY - RESULTS/OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

Collections, Curatorial, and Heritage Maintenance

The Collections, Curatorial, and Heritage Maintenance division supports the Foundation's mandate to preserve, protect, research, and share the Island's cultural and natural heritage through collections stewardship, conservation, research access, heritage maintenance, and professional support to sites and partner organizations. During 2025–2026, the division focused on improving collection care, enhancing public access to collections, supporting heritage preservation projects, and strengthening organizational capacity through digitization and policy development.

Collections Stewardship and Preservation

Significant work was undertaken to improve both the physical care and long-term management of the Provincial Collection. Staff addressed infrastructure challenges at the Collections Facility, including repairs to mechanical and sprinkler systems, mitigation of seasonal flooding, accessibility improvements, and remediation work following water damage. Preservation activities extended across Foundation sites and included conservation treatments, pest management, restoration projects, fossil stewardship, and planning for future collections storage requirements. The division also developed a Digitization Policy and Plan and advanced documentation procedures to support long-term collections management.

Collections Development and Access

The Provincial Collection continued to grow through donations, acquisitions, and documentation efforts. During the reporting period, the Foundation received 59 donations comprising 422 individual objects from 47 donors. The Foundation also established a

dedicated acquisitions budget for the first time in recent years, allowing staff to acquire objects that address identified gaps within the collection. Acquisitions included examples of contemporary Indigenous art, organized sport, local business history, and contemporary Island craftsmanship.

During the 2025-2026 reporting period, several items were added to the collection, including: Fathers of Confederation 1967 Centennial Collector Cards; *Picking Blueberries*, an original quillwork art created by Melissa Peter-Paul; and mugs featuring vintage labels from Island businesses, created by Village Pottery.

Staff responded to 125 research requests, welcomed 36 researchers to the Collections Facility, and supported visitors, scholars, and partner organizations seeking access to the collection.

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.

By the end of the reporting period, the collections database contained 83,825 records, with 500 newly digitized items, and the publicly accessible eMuseum contained 4,140 records with 325 newly added items. During the reporting period, approximately 13,800 objects were photographed."

To view, visit **https://collections.peimuseum.ca**

Heritage Maintenance and Site Support

Heritage Maintenance staff provided essential support to Foundation sites through preservation, conservation, and infrastructure projects. Work included restoration and stabilization activities at Orwell Corner Historic Village, Beaconsfield Historic House, Green Park Shipbuilding Museum, Basin Head Fisheries Museum, and Elmira Railway Museum. Major projects included restoration planning for Taylor House, repairs to historic structures, exhibit preparation, artifact relocation during conservation projects, and preventative maintenance activities aimed at protecting heritage assets for future generations.

Partnerships, Research and Knowledge Sharing

The division continued to play a significant role in supporting heritage initiatives beyond Foundation operations. Staff collaborated with universities, community museums, government agencies, Parks Canada, L'nuey, the Public Archives and Records Office, and numerous other organizations. Collections and Curatorial staff contributed to teaching and

research partnerships, supported Provincial Heritage Fair programming, participated in professional working groups, and provided expertise and resources to heritage organizations across the Island.

Collections staff continued to support external organizations through loans, image requests, exhibition collaborations, and research partnerships that extended the reach of the Provincial Collection beyond Foundation sites. Seventeen loan requests were granted to external partners, including: Amherst Cove Consolidated, L'nuey, Dr. John Calder, Confederation Centre Art Gallery, St. Mary's University, Nature PEI, and Sir Andrew MacPhail Homestead.

Publications and Public Engagement

The curator of history continued to oversee and support *The Island Magazine*, producing two issues during the reporting period. Issue 95 featured a variety of topics relating to Prince Edward Island heritage, while Issue 96 focused on Irish history in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the Benevolent Irish Society. Editorial committee transitions and recruitment helped ensure the continued publication of the Foundation's flagship heritage magazine.

Education and Programming

The Education and Programming division supports the Foundation's mandate to share the Island's heritage through curriculum-linked learning, experiential programming, and public engagement opportunities. During 2025–2026, the division focused on expanding educational access, strengthening curriculum connections, and delivering immersive experiences that connect students and visitors with the province's history, culture, and heritage.

Educational Programming

Educational programming remained a core component of the Foundation's public service mandate. During the reporting period, staff delivered 62 educational field trips reaching approximately 5,150 students, while classroom presentations and outreach activities engaged an additional 400 students in 12 schools and four school-based heritage fairs. These activities supported the Foundation's goal of fostering understanding and appreciation of Island heritage amongst young learners.

Programming was tailored to the unique mandates of individual sites. Students participated in art-based learning at Eptek Art & Culture Centre, Acadian history programming at the Acadian Museum of PEI, and hands-on heritage experiences at Green Park Shipbuilding Museum and Orwell Corner Historic Village. During the year, the division continued delivery of the *Black Women's History Project* and introduced the French-language *Experiencing*

Acadian History program, which explores surname origins and Acadian heritage through immersive activities. At Orwell Corner Historic Village, seasonal programs provided experiential learning opportunities focused on agriculture, archaeology, traditional foodways, and rural life in nineteenth-century Prince Edward Island.

The Acadian and Francophone Affairs Secretariat and the Department of Education and Early Years were key partners in supporting educational initiatives. Their support helped establish *Experiencing Acadian History* as a regular component of the Foundation's educational offerings, with funding extended through April 2027. Feedback from educators remained overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the impact of the French-language programming.

Experiential Programming

The division also helped deliver a range of public experiential programs designed to increase engagement with Foundation sites and heritage resources. Programming included *The Haunting of Yeo House*, *Bread & Butter: Food on the Farm, In the Time of Maud*, *The Beaconsfield Séance*, *Beaconsfield by Candlelight*, *Kids' Halloween Hauntacular*, and the *Holiday Extravaganza* at Beaconsfield. These programs combined historical interpretation, immersive storytelling, and community partnerships to attract both residents and visitors while encouraging repeat visitation to Foundation sites.

Several programs were delivered in partnership with community organizations and businesses, including Discover Charlottetown, the Confederation Centre, Creative PEI, Cooper Institute, and other partners. These collaborations supported the Foundation's strategic objective of expanding audience reach and strengthening community connections through heritage programming.

Initiatives of the Heritage Officer

Community Museums Association

The Department provided a total of $30,000 to the Community Museums Association (CMA) for administration of their Museum Development Grants. Members of CMA PEI are eligible to apply for funding for up to two projects, with a maximum amount of $3,000. Eligible projects should fit into the museum's mission statement and enhance its capacity to operate effectively. In 2025/2026, ten members of CMA were provided with funding for 14 projects.

Additionally, the Department provided an operational grant to CMA as part of a multi-year funding agreement to assist with predictable funding and capacity building. The amount provided for 2025/26 was $60,000.

Heritage Incentive Program

Cape Bear Lighthouse and Marconi Station were awarded $3,000 through the Heritage Incentive Grant Program to assist in their renovations. This funding went towards painting the exterior, restoration of the windows and minor repairs to the fascia board underneath the lantern.

Heritage Places Advisory Board and the PEI Register of Heritage Places

The Heritage Places Advisory Board met in July and recommended the addition of five heritage places to the PEI Register of Heritage Places. Minister Zachary Bell accepted the Board's advice, and the following places have been registered:

- St. John's Anglican Church, 17184 Rte. 2, Milton Station
- North Winsloe Church, 1855 Winsloe Road, North Winsloe
- South Lake Christian Church, 31 Elmira Road, Cardigan
- MacCaull's General Store, 1051 Ellerslie Road, Ellerslie
- Elma and Percy Stewart House, 305 Shipyard Road, Hamilton

With three board members' terms coming to an end, an Engage PEI campaign took place to seek out new board members. After a month-long social media push, 28 applications were received. Two individuals, Josh Silver and Rachel Peacock, were appointed. Paula Kenny was re-appointed for her second term. These three board members represent a diverse knowledge field within the world of heritage and will make wonderful additions to the Heritage Places Advisory Board. An orientation session was held in November for new board members.

Provincial Heritage Fair

The Heritage Fair program celebrated its 33rd year in 2025/2026. The 2026 PEI Provincial Heritage Fair took place on April 30th at the Eastlink Centre in Charlottetown. The Fair saw 216 students in grades five through ten participate in the full day activities, and showcased 176 heritage-themed projects relating to Canadian/PEI heritage. In total, 25 schools and one homeschool association took part. More than 1,500 PEI students participated in heritage fairs in the 2025-2026 school year. During the fair, students had an opportunity to attend workshops or tours in the afternoon – some examples of workshops included *PEI Fossils: Life Before Dinosaurs* with Laura McNeil, *Archaeology Workshop* with L'Nuey, and a *walking tour of harness racing in Charlottetown* facilitated by the PEI Harness Racing Industry Association.

The 2026 Provincial Heritage Fair is made possible through the hard work of volunteers, school coordinators, chaperones, and the Heritage Fair Planning Committee. The Fair also saw over 34 local organizations donate 56 prizes for theme-based projects.

Following the fair, four student projects were promoted to Canada's History National Showcase, where Canadians had the opportunity to vote for their favourite Canadian-wide heritage project. The four PEI student projects advancing to the National Showcase included:

- Ben Docherty, "Air Canada Flight 143: The Gimli Glider", Belfast Consolidated School
- Ruby Keller, "Les Droits Des Femmes au Canada", Colonel Gray Senior High School
- Autumn Long, "Digging Into History: An Archaeological Exploration", Mount Stewart Consolidated School
- Darwin Ziolaberry, "Eleanor Harvey and L'Escrime, École François-Buote

Museum and Culture Sites

Year-Round Sites

Acadian Museum of PEI

The Acadian Museum of PEI continued to serve as a centre for Acadian history, culture, and community engagement through exhibitions, collections stewardship, research services, educational programming, and special events. Open year-round, the museum offers exhibitions, a genealogical research centre, archives, an artefact repository, interpretive video presentations, a gift shop, public talks, film screenings, and demonstrations. Museum staff participated in annual community events such as celebrating National Acadian Day and observing Acadian Remembrance Day.

During the reporting period, the museum hosted several travelling exhibitions, including *Le homard, ça pince! / Lobster Bites!*, *Migrations pluri-elles / Migration Herstories*, and *D'où s'tu d'vonne? / Where've you been?*, strengthening partnerships with Acadian cultural organizations in New Brunswick and beyond. A new "Night at the Museum" initiative was launched in partnership with La Belle-Alliance, with plans to continue through 2026. The museum hosted an experimental tourism handcraft workshop that did not attract sufficient registrations to continue at this time, but the pilot project provided insight into future programming opportunities.

The museum remained an active hub for community programming and cultural preservation. Highlights included public talks on Acadian cuisine, historic Acadian homes, traditional

wedding meals, and Acadian religious communities, as well as two book launches featuring Georges Arsenault and Louis Arsenault. The museum also hosted the annual general meeting of the Community Museums Association of PEI and participated in job fair programming supporting francophone newcomers through the Cooperative d'Intégration Francophone de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard (CIF).

Community engagement extended beyond the museum's walls. The museum was featured in a documentary by Hélène Lebon highlighting efforts to preserve Acadian culture and heritage, and it also appeared in a national commercial broadcast during National Acadian Day celebrations on Radio-Canada. In addition, the museum continued work on Phase 2 of an updated visitor orientation video, replacing content that had not been substantially updated since 1996.

The museum also maintained strong collections and preservation activities. Ongoing reorganization work continued in the museum's object repository, while staff received specialized training in Collections Salvage and Emergency Response from the BC Heritage Emergency Response Network. The museum was also visited by representatives from the French Consulate in Moncton, Canadian Heritage, and the Community Museums Association of PEI to discuss collections work and future programming opportunities.

Volunteer and community support remained essential to museum operations. Members of the Association du Musée acadien, the Sister Antoinette DesRoches Historical Committee, and additional volunteers contributed to program delivery, events, and collections work throughout the year.

Beaconsfield Historic House

Beaconsfield Historic House continued to provide visitors with opportunities to explore Prince Edward Island's Victorian-era history through guided tours, educational programming, special events, and community use of the Carriage House. Year-round historic house tours remained a popular attraction, particularly among tourists and cruise ship visitors, while school groups participated in curriculum-linked heritage experiences throughout the year.

Special programming continued to be a significant component of site operations. The popular *Beaconsfield Victorian Séance* returned for its final season, offering visitors an immersive theatrical experience featuring period performance, stagecraft, and historical interpretation. The program again attracted strong attendance from both residents and visitors before being retired to make way for future programming opportunities. The site also debuted *Beaconsfield by Candlelight*, an evening experience that explored the more macabre aspects of Victorian life and death through local ghost stories, historical

interpretation, music, and objects from the collection. In December, the site launched a new holiday event, the *Beaconsfield Holiday Extravaganza*. Held over three days, the program featured a house-lighting ceremony, live music, storytelling, a holiday craft market, family activities, and fully decorated historic house tours. The *Holiday Extravaganza* was an incredible chance for collaboration with community organizations; key partners included Discover Charlottetown, Diamond Lighting Solutions, Cooper Institute, Creative PEI, Latinos Association of PEI, and more.

The site continued to support community engagement through use of the Carriage House, which remained a popular venue for government agencies, businesses, non-profit organizations, performing arts groups, and community events. Additional improvements were made to policy, pricing, and amenity availability to further enhance the site's appeal as a wedding and special event venue.

The *Bog Tour* returned for another successful season through continued support from the Government of Prince Edward Island's Anti-Racism Grant and a partnership with the Black Cultural Society of PEI. Offered from May through October, the free walking tour provided participants with an opportunity to learn about the history of a lost Charlottetown neighbourhood. Attendance remained strong throughout the season and visitor feedback was positive, demonstrating continued interest in sharing and preserving this important aspect of Prince Edward Island's history.

Eptek Art & Culture Centre

Eptek Art & Culture Centre continued to serve as a year-round hub for visual arts, culture, education, and community engagement in western PEI. Through exhibitions, workshops, artist residencies, educational programming, community partnerships, and public events, Eptek provided opportunities for residents and visitors to engage with contemporary and traditional artistic practices throughout the year.

A diverse exhibition program formed the core of site activities. Major exhibitions included *Quilting into Spring*, *ArtsSmarts: Open Your Mind and Learn Through the Arts*, *Excellence in Craft* (presented in partnership with the PEI Crafts Council), *Our Climate Quest* from Science North, *One More Row* by the Kensington Artist Co-op, *Through the Lens* by the Red Sands Photography Club, and *A Walk in the Wood* by Steve Leard. Lobby and satellite exhibitions further expanded opportunities for Island artists and community organizations to present their work.

Educational and community programming remained a significant part of Eptek's mandate. The centre continued delivery of the popular *Let's Get Creative Kid's Art Club*, school art education activities, the long-running Lunchtime Film Series, monthly Book Club meetings,

Maker's Sessions, artist talks, workshops, and community tours. These programs supported opportunities for lifelong learning, youth engagement, and creative participation.

Community partnerships played an important role in program delivery. Eptek collaborated with schools, community organizations, the PEI Crafts Council, Creative PEI, Science North, Music PEI, the Harbourfront Theatre, and many individual artists to present exhibitions, workshops, performances, and learning opportunities.

Several initiatives highlighted community participation and outreach. The *Gallery of Kindness* community art project encouraged public contributions throughout the summer and became a permanent feature of the site's public programming. Eptek also hosted an artist residency by Jane Whitten, supported satellite exhibitions in partnership with cultural organizations, and continued to provide exhibition opportunities for emerging and established Island artists.

Seasonal Sites

Basin Head Fisheries Museum

The Basin Head Fisheries Museum continued to provide visitors with opportunities to explore Prince Edward Island's fisheries heritage through museum tours, educational programming, gift shop services, and visitor amenities. The site was open from June 2 to September 29, 2025 and welcomed bus tours, school groups, and individual visitors throughout the season. Services included guided museum experiences, a retail gift shop featuring locally made products, and food service through the Cannery ice cream and beverage counter.

A major highlight of the season was the introduction of guided tours of the Marine Protected Area (MPA) in celebration of the MPA's 20th anniversary, and in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The tours included museum admission and provided visitors with new opportunities to learn about the area's environmental heritage. The anniversary attracted national attention, as a DFO film crew visited from Ottawa to document the MPA and promote the work taking place at Basin Head.

The museum welcomed several notable visitors during the year, including Minister Zachary Bell and former Premier Pat Binns, both of whom highlighted the importance of Basin Head as a destination for residents and visitors alike.

The museum also continued its commitment to inclusion and community engagement through a second season of Indigenous cultural programming offered free of charge. Weekly events were held during July and August and featured storytelling, drumming, singing, dancing, and demonstrations.

Elmira Railway Museum

The Elmira Railway Museum continued to celebrate and interpret the Island's railway heritage through tours, interactive experiences, and educational programming. Operating from June 2 to September 23, 2025, the museum offered guided tours, electric train rides, speeder and trolley rides, and spring school programming for students in kindergarten through grade three.

A major highlight of the year was the celebration of the museum's 50th anniversary as part of the Foundation. The anniversary event, held on August 6, 2025, attracted more than 300 visitors and provided an opportunity to celebrate the museum's long-standing role in preserving and sharing the history of Prince Edward Island's railway system.

The museum continued to provide family-friendly heritage experiences through its popular train ride attractions and educational programming, helping visitors engage with the history of transportation and rural communities across the province. School tours remained an important part of the site's activities, connecting younger audiences with Island history through hands-on learning opportunities.

The museum also welcomed Robin Croucher, MLA and Minister of Education, during the operating season.

Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House

Operating from June 2 to August 29, 2025, the Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House provided visitors with the opportunity to explore Prince Edward Island's shipbuilding and maritime heritage through its historic buildings, permanent displays, educational programming, and interpretive experiences.

Educational programming remained an important part of site operations, with school groups participating in curriculum-linked heritage experiences. The popular haunted tours of Yeo House also returned during July and August, providing visitors with an engaging interpretation of local history and folklore while attracting both residents and tourists to the site.

The site welcomed Minister Zachary Bell during a visit in May, highlighting the continued importance of Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House as a provincial heritage destination.

Orwell Corner Historic Village

Orwell Corner Historic Village offered immersive heritage experiences that connect visitors with nineteenth-century rural life on PEI. Operating from May 26 to October 10, 2025, the site delivered a wide range of educational, cultural, and visitor experiences. The site opened

again on Oct. 26 for the *Kids' Halloween Hauntacular* event, which proved quite popular amongst local families.

The site's experiential programming remained a major attraction. The popular *Food on the Farm: Bread and Butter Experience* and *Forge on the Farm: Blacksmith Experience* generated approximately $13,000 in revenue during the season. Visitors also enjoyed wagon rides, ice cream making demonstrations, spinning wheel demonstrations, weekly children's summer camps, school tours, and the *In the Time of Maud* program. The site hosted five weddings, welcomed participants from the Atlantic Veterinary Kids Camp, and offered bi-weekly céilidhs throughout July and August as a venue for Small Halls programming. The charming gift shop full of local artisan crafts, as well as the tearoom, further enhanced the visitor experience.

Educational programming continued to be an important component of site operations, with school groups participating in curriculum-linked experiences and hands-on heritage activities.

Visitor feedback throughout the season was reported as positive, reflecting continued public interest in the site's experiential programming and heritage interpretation.

Other Foundation Initiatives

The Island Magazine

Spring/Summer 2025 - Issue 95

Articles featured in this issue include:

- *"An Ode to Mrs. Lighthouse": Carol Livingstone*
- *"Life Here is Especially Primitive": An American Author Visits Prince Edward Island, 1872*
- *"Deroche Pond and Dunes"*

Fall/Winter 2026 - Issue 96

Issue 96 of The Island Magazine is a special issue dedicated to Irish Islanders and their history.

Articles featured in this issue include:

- *The Invisible Labour of Women at the Benevolent Irish Society / Le travail invisible des femmes a la Benevolent Irish Society,* Shaun Patterson

- *The Ancient Order of Hibernians on Prince Edward Island: A Historical Excavation,* Edward MacDonald
- *By Way of the Irish Sea,* Carole Eliza Trainor

The hidden island podcast

The hidden island 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 why that history is still relevant today.

- At the time of the writing of this annual report, the podcast has been downloaded over 27,600 times by listeners across the globe (44 countries and counting).
- 29 episodes have been released to date.
- Season five was released in January 2025. Season six began production in the summer of 2026 and will be released in the fall of 2026.
- The podcast is available on all popular podcasting platforms, including Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Audible, Spotify, Podbean, and more.

Hidden Island (video series)

The Hidden Island (formerly 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 the province's history. In 2025-26, five more stories were added to the project, with more on the way:

- Sukwi'sim (Auntie's Place)
- Feast Dinner Theatre
- The Healing Spring

Two more episodes, one about *The Fold* automotive club and one about Island architect W.C. Harris, were both in production at the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

You can find these stories and more at **https://www.hiddenisland.ca**

Shopify and Gift Shops

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

Visit our museum e-shop at**:** https://peimuseumshop.ca/

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY

The Foundation continued to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and reconciliation initiatives across our sites, programs, and partnerships during 2025–2026. Efforts focused on broadening representation in programming, strengthening relationships with Indigenous and cultural communities, improving accessibility, and ensuring that more diverse stories and perspectives are reflected in the Foundation's work.

Indigenous Partnerships and Reconciliation

- A significant area of focus was strengthening relationships with Indigenous communities and organizations. For a second consecutive year, the Foundation partnered with Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI and the Mi'kmaq Heritage Actors to deliver Mi'kmaq cultural programming at Basin Head Fisheries Museum. The eight-week series featured storytelling, drumming, singing, dancing, cultural interpretation, and artisan demonstrations, providing visitors with opportunities to engage directly with Mi'kmaq culture and knowledge. Attendance grew throughout the season, demonstrating strong public interest and community impact.
- Additional Indigenous partnerships were reflected throughout the Foundation's work. The Green Park Shipbuilding Museum *Annual Blueberry Social* featured quill basket demonstrations by the Lennox Island Cultural Centre, while cultural presentations included songs, language teachings, and a prayer shared by Richard Pellissier-Lush from Lennox Island. Indigenous artists were also represented in the Green Park gift shop for the first time.
- The 2026 Heritage Fair included archaeology workshops presented by L'nuey and cultural presentations by Elder Judy Clark, helping students develop a broader understanding of Indigenous history and culture on Prince Edward Island.
- Within the Collections and Curatorial division, staff participated in Indigenous-focused initiatives including research projects related to Indigenous artists in archives, repatriation discussions led through the Canadian Museums Association, and Mi'kmaq language training. These activities supported ongoing efforts to strengthen cultural understanding and improve the interpretation and stewardship of Indigenous heritage.

Diversity and Community Inclusion

Many Foundation sites continued to foster inclusion through partnerships with community organizations, artists, educational institutions, and newcomer-serving agencies. The Acadian Museum of PEI maintained ongoing relationships with Acadian and Francophone organizations, including the Coopérative d'intégration francophone de l'ÎPÉ, which supports Francophone newcomers to Prince Edward Island. The museum also continued to present Acadian history, culture, and language through its exhibitions, events, and programming.

At Eptek Art & Culture Centre, staff collaborated with organizations including the Lennox Island Mi'kmaq Cultural Centre, local arts groups, educational institutions, newcomer-serving organizations, and community service agencies. Community art initiatives, artist talks, workshops, educational programming, and exhibitions provided opportunities for broad public participation and engagement. Projects such as the *Gallery of Kindness* were designed to create welcoming spaces while encouraging positive community interaction and creative expression.

The Foundation also participated in community celebrations and public events promoting inclusion and equity. Staff from multiple divisions participated in Pride activities, including the annual Pride Parade, while all sites displayed Pride flags as visible demonstrations of inclusion and support for diverse communities.

Accessibility Improvements

Improving accessibility remained an important focus across the Foundation. Several physical improvements were completed during the reporting period. At Green Park, washrooms were upgraded to be fully accessible and gender-neutral.

The Acadian Museum of PEI continued to maintain an accessible facility and began planning updates to its visitor orientation video to improve accessibility for both hearing- and visually-impaired audiences.

At Eptek, facility improvements included upgraded lighting and continued efforts to improve accessibility through programming, physical space design, and staff training. All staff were invited to participate in American Sign Language (ASL) training, which reinforced the importance of visual communication tools, captioning, and accessible interpretation.

Building a More Inclusive Heritage Sector

The Foundation also continued efforts to promote inclusivity within heritage governance and decision-making. The heritage officer worked with the Engage PEI process to recruit new members to the Heritage Places Advisory Board, resulting in increased transparency and

broader participation in heritage decision-making. The Board also welcomed its first member under the age of 30, adding a new perspective to its work. Efforts also began to revise heritage evaluation criteria so that social, cultural, community, and landscape values are considered more fully alongside architectural significance.

Through these initiatives, partnerships, and improvements, the Foundation continued to advance its commitment to creating welcoming spaces, amplifying underrepresented histories, improving accessibility, and strengthening relationships with the diverse communities and cultures that contribute to Prince Edward Island's heritage.

2026 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.

2026 Heritage Awards Recipients

Mary Cornfoot Brehault Genealogy Award

Jean MacKay: for her dedicated service as an archivist at the MacNaught History Centre and Archives in Summerside, Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Natural Heritage Activity Award

Jake Harding: for his work catching, identifying, and cataloguing insects and arthropods on Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Percy Affleck: for his leadership, passion and dedication to preserving and sharing the history of the Bedeque area in Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Irene Rogers Architectural Award

Mark Rodd: for his leadership and initiative in conserving and restoring the historic Charlottetown Hotel.

Wendell Boyle Performance Award

Richard Wood: for performing and sharing Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk musical and cultural heritage for over forty years.

Academic Publication of the Year

Frank Gillan: for preserving and sharing Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk heritage through his book *They Can't Take the Kids*.

Creative Publication of the Year

Kate MacQuarrie: for preserving and sharing Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk heritage through her book *Wild Foods of Prince Edward Island*.

2026 HERITAGE AWARDS (continued)

Catherine Hennessey Heritage Activism Award – Young Adult Category

Town of Stratford: for their work connecting youth to Stratford's heritage through their 30th Anniversary Book Project.

Catherine Hennessey Heritage Activism Award – Adult Category

Town of Stratford: for their efforts to engage residents with their history of military service through a knit and crochet poppy project.

Boyde Beck Memorial Award

Connecting Conversations Indigenous Language & Drumming Program: for their work teaching and sharing Mi'kmaq language, culture and heritage in Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Boyde Beck Memorial Bursary

Miyuki Fujimaru: for her enthusiasm and effort in studying, sharing and preserving culture and heritage on Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Award of Honour

Clarence Ryan: for his outstanding contributions to conservation, research and education in natural heritage on Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Heritage Recognition Awards:

Rosemary Curley, Barbara MacDonald, Johanne Vigneault and Chris Ortenburger: for their work raising public awareness on the positive role of museums in Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Benevolent Irish Society of Prince Edward Island: for their efforts in celebrating Irish-Canadian culture in Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk

Andrews Tribune Newsletter: for their work documenting and sharing the life stories and lived experiences of seniors in Prince Edward Island/Epekwitk.

Gary MacDougall and Carolyn McKillop: for their work researching, writing and publishing the book *Tyne Valley: The People, Their History.*

ITEM DONATIONS

In 2025-26, 59 donations of cultural or material objects were received, representing 422 individual objects 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 to be guided through the process.

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

- Susan Strange
- Sally Steudler
- Jane MacDonald
- Reg Jay
- Culture Summerside
- June Morrison
- Health PEI
- Theresa Mair
- Rod Crook
- Lesley Caseley
- Meg Preston
- Samantha Kelly
- Marian Purdy
- Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy
- Greg Gallant
- Sara Cousins
- Mary Anne Holland
- Frank and Marie Butler
- Reg Murphy
- Dave Moase & Sarah Lavers
- Shirely Moase
- Janice Thibault
- Gerry Atkins
- Dalmac Holdings
- Ed and Dona Aitkens
- Alvin Schaut
- Frank Stewart
- Brydie Hyndman
- Mary MacDonald
- Paula Rein
- Sandra Harris
- Matthew McRae
- Agnes and Henri Van Den Bremt
- Paul Knox
- The Table Culinary Studio
- Jean Gallant
- Department of Archaeology
- Laura MacNeil
- John Calder
- Misha Whittingham
- Holy Whale Beer
- Nora Scales
- Annys Kiddie
- Kirk Costain
- Noella Richard
- Miranda MacIsaac

ENDOWMENT TRUST & CAPITAL PROJECTS

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 April 17, 2025, and determined to withdraw $59,000 from the Trust. The funds helped support a contract extension for the Foundation's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, a contract extension for the Foundation's Sales, Membership and Marketing Coordinator and a contract for the Editor of *The Island Magazine*. Money was also set aside to assist in the creation of a photo exhibition about the 150th anniversary of the PEI Regiment. Other projects supported by the Trust included fall and Christmas programming at Beaconsfield Historic House and Orwell Corner Historic Village, the Foundation's fundraising activities, and a contract maintenance worker position. Funds were set aside in order to provide honoraria to individuals collaborating with the Foundation to develop content, hold events and deliver programming. Finally, there was money set aside for staff to attend the first ever Atlantic Black History Symposium, held at Dalhousie University in Halifax in April 2025.

Capital Projects

Throughout the 2025-26 fiscal year, the PEI Museum and 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 **Basin Head Fisheries Museum**, significant improvements were made to site infrastructure and visitor facilities. Capital improvements included replacement of seven windows and an exterior door in the gift shop, repairs to deteriorated cedar shingles, and restoration work to the front façade of the building. There were 3 heat pumps installed in the museum to enhance the experience for visitors and staff during the summer and to lessen oil usage and costs during the shoulder seasons and winter. Additional site enhancements within the surrounding park included renewed boardwalks, railings, gazebo flooring, benches, and interpretive signage describing the Marine Protected Area and surrounding landscape.

At **Beaconsfield Historic House,** there were significant improvements for cosmetic and efficiency purposes. These included veranda renovations consisting of new decking in its

entirety and repairs to sections of the railings and posts. The house is now more energy efficient after having interior magnetic windows installed which allowed for the original glass and frame to stay intact.

At **Elmira Railway Museum**, several facility improvement projects were completed during the reporting period. These included the installation of three new doors on the gift shop and administration building, as well as a new metal roof and window flashing on the historic caboose. These upgrades support the preservation of site infrastructure and help maintain safe and welcoming visitor experiences.

For **Eptek Art & Culture Centre**, although there have been various repairs and upgrades to the site, none met the Capital Projects threshold as outlined in the Government of PEI criteria.

The **Green Park Shipbuilding Museum & Yeo House** facility improvements were a significant highlight of the year. A new heat pump was installed in the Shipbuilding Museum, while the Yeo House received a central air system. These upgrades improved visitor comfort and supported the long-term preservation of the site's historic structures and collections.

A significant focus during the reporting period was the preservation and improvement of **Orwell Corner Historic Village's** historic buildings and infrastructure. Major capital projects included installation of a new full concrete foundation beneath Taylor House, extensive plaster and painting work at both the Schoolhouse and Clarke House, electrical upgrades, heating improvements, flooring restoration, and creation of additional programming space within Taylor House. Structural stabilization work was also completed at the Shingle Mill and Woodmaker's Shop.

The Foundation is extremely grateful for the Province's continued support of our capital spending program which has helped us make much needed upgrades, improvements, and repairs to our aging infrastructure.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

2025-2026 Chair's Annual Report

Public events

The Lieutenant Governor had the pleasure of hosting the Duke of Edinburgh last spring and a Crimson Maple was added to the property in honour of his visit and the 150th Anniversary of the PEI Regiment. HRH the Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh, is Colonel-in-Chief of the PEI R.

The public was once again allowed to have bilingual guided tours of the House–the guides were Roisin Mullen and Anna Mae MacLeod. They welcomed a total of 2,415 visitors to the house during July and August, slightly more than the previous summer.

The annual Garden Party was very well attended with weather cooperating. Entertainment was provided by the Prince Edward Island Regiment Band. Attendance was 620, an increase of 200 over the previous year.

Attendance to the Christmas Open House (205) was down this year due to poor weather conditions on both days. The New Year's Day Levee brought in approximately 550 people, more or less the same number as the previous year.

Staffing

Kristie Jay left her position as Service Worker last fall and we still have not been able to fill that position. The position of House Manager remains to be advertised. The garden staff team is now composed of Keith Fraser, James Hemphill and Cynthia Young. Mowing of the property was contracted out; there were a few adjustments but things seem to be working well. This contracting out of the mowing gives the staff more time to take care of the flower beds, garden and the shrubs.

Government House Committee

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

House Maintenance

The roof was redone over the course of the early summer and regular maintenance was carried on. New audio-equipment was purchased and it was decided not to install volume controls on the walls.

As was mentioned several times over the course of the year, we should definitely create a priority list for the maintenance/upgrade of the house which should include everything from HVAC systems to reupholstering of furniture and replacement of area rugs.

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.

Climate change and insect infestation are proving to be a challenge for the gardens. The Garden Committee members met at the end of the summer to assess the conditions of the flower beds. Due to the drought and the infestation of Japanese beetles, they made notes of plants that did well and not so well and adjusted the purchasing order for 2026 accordingly. They also noted that the quality of the seedlings received from the nursery were far from satisfactory and are going to follow up to ensure that this does not reoccur. To avoid a repeat of this situation, two members of the committee paid an unscheduled visit to the nursery to assess the quality of the seedlings.

In conclusion

I would like to thank His Honour Dr. Wassim Salamoun for the dedication as well as all members of the Government 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

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Financial Statements
March 31, 2026

ArsenaultBestCameronEllis
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

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 Governors of Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation on matters of financial reporting and internal control. Management provides the Board of Governors 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

ArsenaultBestCameronEllis
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Member of The AC Group of Independent Accounting Firms

Chartered Professional Accountants & Business Advisors
8 MacLeod Crescent
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
Canada C1E 3K2
Telephone (902) 368-3100
Fax (902) 566-5074
www.acgca.ca

June 29, 2026

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, 2026, 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, 2026, 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 and donations, 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 and cash flows from operations for the years ended March 31, 2026 and March 31, 2025, financial assets as at March 31, 2026 and March 31, 2025, and accumulated surplus as at April 1 and March 31 for both the 2026 and 2025 years. Our audit opinion for the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025 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.

ArsenaultBestCameronEllis
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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, 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Assets (note 10)		
Financial assets		
Cash	536,458	125,495
Accounts receivable (notes 3 and 13)	103,880	267,640
Investments (note 4)	1,331,237	1,243,753
	1,971,575	1,636,888
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (notes 5 and 13)	472,082	510,244
Deferred revenue (note 7)	126,350	1,440
	598,432	511,684
Net financial assets	1,373,143	1,125,204
Non-financial assets		
Inventory (note 8)	67,923	38,207
Tangible capital assets (schedule)	542,277	577,053
	610,200	615,260
Accumulated surplus	1,983,343	1,740,464
Accumulated surplus consists of		
Accumulated surplus (notes 9 and 10)	1,760,679	1,530,676
Accumulated remeasurement gains	222,664	209,788
	1,983,343	1,740,464

Approved by the Board of Directors

Board Chair

Director

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Statement of Changes in Accumulated Surplus

For the year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Accumulated surplus - Beginning of year	1,530,676	1,440,396
Annual surplus	230,003	90,280
Accumulated surplus - End of year	1,760,679	1,530,676

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2026

	(unaudited) Budget $	2026 $	2025 $
Revenue			
Province of Prince Edward Island - operating grants (notes 11 and 13)	1,851,400	2,350,359	2,024,035
Government of Canada grant (note 12)	69,000	62,427	107,258
Memberships and donations	20,500	23,389	18,071
Admissions and special events	377,600	405,135	344,937
Publishing	8,500	8,941	8,970
Investment income	60,000	145,186	57,259
Insurance recovery	-	10,600	-
Other income	60,300	72,599	61,794
	2,447,300	3,078,636	2,622,324
Expenses			
Artifact collection and equipment	3,000	16,115	43,131
Provincial projects (note 11)	100,000	101,210	207,451
Federal project (note 12)	71,000	82,444	90,499
Insurance, taxes and interest	17,300	16,854	18,533
Inventory	-	-	163
Lease	55,100	47,262	58,172
Office	39,500	44,949	36,986
Other operating	80,000	76,740	121,492
Public programs	65,100	66,605	62,324
Publishing	6,000	10,154	6,067
Repairs and maintenance	70,000	93,116	226,398
Travel	16,000	24,754	15,258
Utilities	101,500	99,097	96,662
Wages and benefits (note 14)	1,822,800	2,149,252	1,659,802
Bad debts	-	-	4,430
	2,447,300	2,828,552	2,647,368
Operating surplus (deficit)	-	250,084	(25,044)
Other revenue (expenses)			
Province of Prince Edward Island - capital grant (notes 11 and 13)	-	35,732	154,348
Amortization	-	(34,776)	(18,965)
Accretion expense (note 6)	-	(21,037)	(20,059)
	-	(20,081)	115,324
Annual surplus	-	230,003	90,280

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Statement of Remeasurement Gains

For the year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Accumulated remeasurement gains - Beginning of year	209,788	210,208
Unrealized gains attributable to:		
Equity investments	87,722	14,224
Amounts reclassified to the statement of operations:		
Investment income	(74,846)	(14,644)
Accumulated remeasurement gains - End of year	222,664	209,788

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2026

	(unaudited) Budget $	2026 $	2025 $
Net financial assets - Beginning of year	1,125,204	1,125,204	1,010,216
Changes in year			
Annual surplus	-	230,003	90,280
Unrealized gains	-	87,722	14,224
Unrealized gains transferred to investment income	-	(74,846)	(14,644)
Change in inventory	-	(29,716)	6,163
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	34,776	18,965
Change in net financial assets	-	247,939	114,988
Net financial assets - End of year	1,125,204	1,373,143	1,125,204

Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operating activities		
Annual surplus	230,003	90,280
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	34,776	18,965
Accretion expense	21,037	20,059
	285,816	129,304
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	163,760	(70,916)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(59,199)	14,092
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	124,910	(256)
Decrease (increase) in inventory	(29,716)	6,163
	485,571	78,387
Investing activity		
Decrease (increase) in investments	(74,608)	11,538
Increase in cash	410,963	89,925
Cash - Beginning of year	125,495	35,570
Cash - End of year	536,458	125,495

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 restricted contributions and 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.

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.

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 (revenue from non-exchange transactions) are recognized as revenue 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.

3 Accounts receivable

	2026 $	2025 $
Trade receivables	17,703	60,366
HST receivable	26,443	19,871
Government contribution receivable (note 13)	59,734	187,403
	103,880	267,640

4 Investments

	2026 $	2025 $
Investments at cost and amortized cost:		
Guaranteed investment certificates:		
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 5.10%, 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
Bank of Nova Scotia, yield 4.60%, maturing June 19, 2028	69,000	69,000
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
B2B Bank, yield 2.97%, maturing January 29, 2027	50,000	-
B2B Bank, yield 3.60%, maturing January 29, 2030	40,000	-
LBC Trust, yield 3.60%, maturing January 29, 2030	100,000	-
General Bank of CDA, yield 3.88%, maturing April 17, 2030	30,000	-
Duo Bank Canada, yield 2.07%, matured during the year	-	40,000
CDN Westend Bank, yield 5.25%, matured during the year	-	50,000
SBI Canada Bank, yield 2.57%, matured during the year	-	60,000
	768,500	698,500
Souris Credit Union Shares	6	6
Total investments at cost and amortized cost (market value of investments $783,169 (2025 - $712,564))	768,506	698,506

	2026 $	2025 $
Equity investments at fair value:		
Mutual Funds		
Fidelity Global Equity Plus Fund Series B	98,247	-
RBC Investment Savings	100,415	85,068
Russell US Equity Pool	-	93,576
Russell Overseas Equity Pool	-	11,617
	198,662	190,261
Common shares		
Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc Com	17,347	-
Bank of Nova Scotia	38,588	34,115
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	55,373	50,108
National Bank of Canada	36,002	30,880
Power Corp of Canada	35,494	34,344
Royal Bank of Canada	47,225	51,710
Toronto-Dominion Bank	41,574	31,043
Nutrien Ltd.	-	14,284
	271,603	246,484
Foreign securities		
Cisco Systems	29,693	24,418
Microsoft Corp.	51,513	62,115
Novo Nordisk	11,260	21,969
	92,466	108,502
Total equity investments at fair value	562,731	545,247
Total investments	1,331,237	1,243,753

5 Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

	2026 $	2025 $
Trade payables	19,600	73,730
Province of Prince Edward Island (note 13)	2,842	3,741
Payroll remittance (receivable)	(2,832)	1,338
Asset retirement obligation (note 6)	452,472	431,435
	472,082	510,244

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 to 2026 fiscal years. 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:

	2026 $	2025 $
ARO liability - Beginning of year	431,435	411,376
Accretion expense	21,037	20,059
ARO liability - End of year	452,472	431,435

7 Deferred revenue

	2026 $	2025 $
Subscriptions	1,350	1,440
Basin Head project	125,000	-
	126,350	1,440

8 Inventory

	2026 $	2025 $
Publishing inventory - amortized cost	18,110	18,838
Gift shop/book inventory - at cost	49,813	19,369
	67,923	38,207

9 Accumulated surplus

Accumulated surplus consists of:

	2026 $	2025 $
Unrestricted surplus (deficit)	(139,075)	(304,797)
Equity in tangible capital assets	542,277	577,053
Endowment fund assets (note 10)	1,357,477	1,258,420
	1,760,679	1,530,676

Reconciliation of equity in tangible capital assets:

Equity in tangible capital assets - Beginning of year	577,053	596,018
Amortization during the year	(34,776)	(18,965)
Equity in tangible capital assets - End of year	542,277	577,053

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 and Affordability 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.

	2026 $	2025 $
Endowment fund assets - Beginning of year	1,258,420	1,270,582
Amounts reclassified to the statement of operations	(74,846)	(14,644)
Revenue	232,903	71,482
Transfer to unrestricted surplus	(59,000)	(69,000)
Endowment fund assets - End of year	1,357,477	1,258,420

Transfers of $59,000 (2025 - $69,000) 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:

	2026 $	2025 $
Cash	11,583	609
Accounts receivable	14,663	14,064
Investments	1,331,231	1,243,747
	1,357,477	1,258,420

11 Grants - Province of Prince of Edward Island

	2026 $	2025 $
Operating grants:		
Province of Prince Edward Island - operating grant	2,283,169	1,804,887
Innovation PEI	30,000	36,000
Skills PEI	37,190	40,618
Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy	-	76,547
Provincial Parks	-	65,983
	2,350,359	2,024,035
Capital grants:		
Province of Prince Edward Island - capital grant	35,732	154,348

Included in the $2,283,169 (2025 - $1,804,887) operating grant reported above is $98,525 (2025 - $132,216) for Provincial projects. Revenues and expenses for these projects are detailed as follows:

	Revenue $	Expenses $	2026 Net $	2025 Net $
Project				
Digitization - Collections	80,327	82,705	(2,378)	(25,138)
Edukits - Collections	18,198	18,505	(307)	(50,097)
	98,525	101,210	(2,685)	(75,235)

12 Government of Canada

	2026		2025	
	Revenue $	Expenses $	Revenue $	Expenses $
Project				
Canadian Museum Association				
Young Canada Works	62,427	82,444	23,174	22,625
Official Languages Support	-	-	84,084	67,874
	62,427	82,444	107,258	90,499

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 $59,734 (2025 - $187,403) from the Province of Prince Edward Island. Accounts payable at year end includes $2,842 (2025 - $3,741) 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 $1,986,123 (2025 - $1,542,481) for employee wages and benefits, $333,892 (2025 - $379,151) for other operating grants, and $30,344 (2025 - $102,403) for office and programming expenses. Capital grants received from the Province of Prince Edward Island during the year total $35,732 (2025 - $154,348).

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.

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 $102,668 (2025 - $68,091) 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.

(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:

	2026 $	2025 $
Cash	536,458	125,495
Accounts receivable	103,880	267,640
Investments	1,331,237	1,243,753
	1,971,575	1,636,888

(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 $19,610 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.

(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 year are as follows:

	$
Year ending March 31, 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, 2026 **Schedule**

	Cost			Accumulated amortization			2026
	Beginning $	Additions $	Ending $	Beginning $	Amortization $	Ending $	Net book value $
Land	21,608	-	21,608	-	-	-	21,608
Buildings	1,130,448	-	1,130,448	626,087	25,393	651,480	478,968
Equipment	38,430	-	38,430	37,388	1,042	38,430	-
Leaseholds	265,428	-	265,428	215,386	8,341	223,727	41,701
Vehicles	36,968	-	36,968	36,968	-	36,968	-
	1,492,882	-	1,492,882	915,829	34,776	950,605	542,277

	Cost			Accumulated amortization			2025
	Beginning $	Additions $	Ending $	Beginning $	Amortization (recovery) $	Ending $	Net book value $
Land	21,608	-	21,608	-	-	-	21,608
Buildings	1,130,448	-	1,130,448	600,694	25,393	626,087	504,361
Equipment	38,430	-	38,430	38,105	(717)	37,388	1,042
Leaseholds	265,428	-	265,428	221,097	(5,711)	215,386	50,042
Vehicles	36,968	-	36,968	36,968	-	36,968	-
	1,492,882	-	1,492,882	896,864	18,965	915,829	577,053

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Changemakers ($5,000+):

- Daphne Schober

Advocates ($500 - $999):

- Frank & Cathy Gillan
- Jerry Ivany

Ambassadors ($200 - $499):

- Catherine Callbeck
- Betty Jeffery
- Andrew MacPherson
- Nora Scales
- Maritime Electric
- Senior's College of PEI

Thank you to our 2025-26 donors and supporters! Thank you as well to the dedicated volunteers and staff at the Collections Facility and our museum and heritage sites.

You make our work possible!

CONTACT US

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Appendix A

PEI Museum and
Heritage Foundation

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



STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2028

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Image: Mi'kmaq basket collections - available online at collections.peimuseum.ca

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY



In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that the province of Prince Edward Island is part of the unceded ancestral, traditional, and contemporary Indigenous homeland of the Mi'kmaq peoples, known as Epekwitk. As members of an Epekwitk-based organization, we pay our respects to the Indigenous peoples who have been and continue to be caretakers of the lands, past and present.

One first step towards reconciliation is recognizing the people who have been here since time immemorial and that as settlers we are guests on this land. Let us also celebrate the diversity and vibrancy of the many nations that gather here, and let this work support our collective change, healing, and growth.

Image: Education & Programming Officer Caitlyn Paxson giving tour at Beaconsfield Historic House, Charlottetown

INTRODUCTION

The PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation (the Foundation) is a provincial crown corporation governed by a board of governors and is an integral part of the Island's community. The Foundation is responsible for studying, collecting, preserving, interpreting, and protecting the human and natural history of the Island. Through its provincial collection of more than 100,000 material and cultural objects, its digital services, educational and public programming, and seven museum and heritage sites across the Island, the Foundation shares knowledge of Island history and encourages residents and visitors to explore, discover, appreciate, and understand the Island's cultural and natural world.



From left to right, top to bottom: Acadian Museum, Basin Head Fisheries Museum, Elmira Railway Museum, Beaconsfield Historic House, Green Park Shipbuilding Museum, Orwell Corner Historic Village, Eptek Art & Culture Centre



The Foundation operates a collections facility and seven provincial museum and heritage sites across the Island, which tell unique stories and provide residents and visitors alike with an opportunity to discover the Island's rich heritage and culture.

The seven sites

1. Acadian Museum of Prince Edward Island
2. Basin Head Fisheries Museum
3. Beaconsfield Historic House
4. Elmira Railway Museum
5. Eptek Art and Culture Centre
6. Green Park Shipbuilding Museum and Yeo House
7. Orwell Corner Historic Village



Image: Student tour guide at Orwell Corner Historic Village's General Store

About the Strategic Plan

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 strategic priorities and identifying pathways to achieving these priorities over the coming years.

This version of the Foundation's Strategic Plan is intended to help staff locate their own work withing the framework of the Plan by laying out the Foundation's core values and clearly identifying the plan's key strategic priorities in a concise format.

HERITAGE VALUES

The following heritage values should guide the Foundation's future heritage development:

Historic

Drawing on the rich cultural and natural history of the Island. Telling stories, uncovering truths.

Natural

Celebrating the uniqueness and significance of the Island's natural landscape, flora, and fauna. Connecting buildings to land, and land to ocean.

Representative

Representing the diverse communities that have existed and continue to develop on the Island — past, present, and future.

Connective

Connecting the meanings of places for visitors and Islanders alike and creating a functioning network of interrelated yet individual museums.



Image: Basin Head beach view from Basin Head Fisheries Museum

Strategic Priorities

Priority 1: Collection, Preservation, and Research

Priority 2: Inclusive and Welcoming for All

Priority 3: Audience and Community Engagement

Priority 4: Governance and People

Priority 5: Holistic Brand

Image: Former Curator of Collections and Conservator Linda Berko conducting work on a taxidermied monkey

Priority 1:
Collection, Preservation, and Research

At the heart of our mission is the commitment to collect, preserve, and research the rich human and natural history of the Island, ensuring accessibility and enjoyment for all people who reside in the province. Through this strategic priority, we will enhance our collection, develop museum-standard spaces, and foster collections-based research to promote the preservation and protection of our heritage.



Objectives

1. Create museum-standard spaces for collection storage, protection, care, and study that are easily accessible by visitors.

2. Grow our collections by acquiring new and cultural and material objects, artworks, tangible and intangible materials that represent the diverse and rich human and natural heritage of the Island, including built heritage. Built heritage can refer to any individual or group of buildings, structures, monuments, streetscapes, or landscapes that are associated with Island history.

3. Enable collections-based research and study to enrich our collections, programming, and the promotion of the province's heritage.

Image: Matthew McRae (left), Executive Director of the Foundation and Tamara Steele (right), Executive Director of Black Cultural Society PEI holding a Black Lives Matter PEI protest banner

Priority 2:
Inclusive and Welcoming for All



We are dedicated to creating spaces and experiences that are inclusive, representative of diverse voices and backgrounds, and accessible to everyone. We are also striving to adopt decolonial practices that empower underrepresented and marginalized communities, including the Island's Indigenous communities. This strategic priority focuses on enriching our curatorial narrative, fostering partnerships with local communities, and enhancing physical and cognitive accessibility to promote social inclusion, connections, and dialogue.

Objectives

1. Enrich the curatorial narrative and content to ensure the representation of diverse voices and experiences of the Island's natural and cultural heritage.

2. Develop new partnerships and strengthen existing ones with local communities and organizations to explore opportunities and new ways to represent the history of the Island today and in the future.

3. Enhance physical and cognitive accessibility, creating an environment that enables social inclusion, connections, and dialogue.

Image: School students visit the "Unearthing the Past" exhibition at the Acadian Museum of PEI

Priority 3:
Audience and Community Engagement

We are committed to expanding our audience reach and engaging with the Island's diverse communities through dynamic experiences, educational programming, and inclusive spaces. This strategic priority aims to create impactful and interdisciplinary experiences, foster community ownership of the Island's heritage, and establish new spaces for engagement, education, dialogue, and exploration.

Objectives

1. Create dynamic and impactful experiences and educational programming that promote interdisciplinarity, inspire curiosity, and encourage self-led discovery.

2. Promote community ownership of the Island's heritage by working in partnership with diverse communities across the Island to inform narratives and programming.

3. Create new spaces for exhibitions, community engagement and dialogue, education, and public programming.



Image: Foundation staff attending an orientation session at Beaconsfield Carriage House, Charlottetown

Priority 4:
Governance and People



The success of the Foundation relies on its people and the effectiveness of internal processes and policies.

This strategic priority aims to strengthen the organizational capacity by fostering representative and inclusive working environments, investing in employee development, building relationships with stakeholders, and implementing efficient processes and procedures.

Objectives

1. Strengthen organizational capacity through effective organization design and employee development.

2. Revise the governance structure to ensure representation of diverse voices and establish strong relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

3. Where appropriate, streamline internal processes and policies, including financial and operational planning, strategic planning, collections policies and processes, asset management, and curatorial policies and procedures.

4. Promote communication, information sharing, and knowledge exchange among various sites.

Image: AquaVision exhibition at Eptek Art & Culture Centre, Summerside

Priority 5:
Holistic Brand

We recognize the importance of a strong and cohesive brand to increase visitation, participation, and engagement with our museums. This strategic priority emphasizes the development of a new brand that promotes the connections among our sites while communicating our commitment to collecting, preserving, interpreting, protecting, and presenting the unique human and natural history of the Island.



Objectives

1. Enable sites to maintain their individuality while promoting uniformity in visitor services, pricing, narrative approach, interpretation, visitor experience, and branding.

2. Create a compelling year-round offer for both residents of the Island and visitors to the Island.

3. Increase awareness and accessibility of museum offerings and experiences.

ACTION PLAN

Priority	Physical Actions	Digital Actions
Priority 1: Collection, Preservation & Research	- Develop dedicated museum-standard facilities to protect and expand our collections. - Establish accessible facilities that allow public and research access to the collections for all, with a special focus on marginalized communities and groups which have historically been underrepresented in the collection and faced barriers to access.	- Continue building an online collection and archive resource that can be accessed by individuals from around the world. - Leverage digital tools and applications to enhance the preservation, protection, and presentation of our tangible and intangible collections.
Priority 2: Inclusive & Welcoming for All	- Provide necessary physical updates and tools to ensure that all exhibits are cognitively and physically accessible. - Create dedicated spaces where all communities can come together and share their stories, ensuring their inclusion in future museum content. - Update the curatorial narrative to ensure diverse representation.	- Offer digital tools and platforms for the holistic and accessible exploration of the Island's heritage, history, and collections. - Utilize digital tools to capture the voices and perspectives of diverse audiences.
Priority 3: Audience & Community Engagement	- Update physical interpretation design and accompanying materials to provide engaging, educational, and discovery opportunities in museums. - Add new spaces dedicated to temporary exhibitions, community programs, and education. -Develop membership and fundraising strategies to increase emotional and financial investment in the foundation.	- Adopt diverse digital tools to connect with new audiences and facilitate and promote educational activities for children and adults, including providing educational resources for teachers. - Explore new ways to engage virtual audiences by developing creative social media content, tapping into new audience segments, and utilizing different media platforms.
Priority 4: Governance & People	- Provide on-site training and staff exchange opportunities among the sites to foster professional development. - Introduce new positions to meet the Foundation's current and future needs while rationalizing the Foundation's organizational structure to ensure efficient reporting structures. - Formalize relationships with key stakeholders, including the boards, associations and corporations that support the Foundation's seven sites. - Strengthen the existing governance structure.	- Offer digital resources and platforms for employee training and development. - Implement digital tools for effective communication, information sharing, and collaboration among staff members.
Priority 5: Holistic Brand	- Continue to develop year-round programming and activities to provide engaging experiences for visitors throughout the year. - Develop and implement an effective awareness and communication plan to promote the museums' offerings, grow membership and encourage fundraising. - Create a unified brand that connects all sites and roll it out across the network. - Foster knowledge exchange among visitor experience staff regarding other sites and activities within the museum network.	- Create a seamless digital and physical experience that allows visitors to understand the connectivity among the sites. - Adopt creative digital strategies to promote the museums' offerings and experiences to virtual audiences.

Governance Principles

The governance of the Foundation is crucial for ensuring effective direction, supervision, and accountability of the organization. It sets the overall strategic vision, aligns priorities, and drives the Foundation's leadership and stewardship responsibilities. These governance principles will guide the Foundation's operations, ensuring effective leadership and strategic implementation.

Image: Exterior of the Yeo House in Green Park Shipbuilding Museum, Port Hill

To guide the future governance system of the Foundation, the following principles should be upheld:

Strategic Thinking

Strategic thinking should underpin all governance activities and operations at each site. By foreseeing future trends, identifying needs, and planning proactively, the Foundation ensures long-term effectiveness and sustainability.

Representative & Multidisciplinary Composition

The Board should include members from relevant sectors, disciplines, and diverse communities. By embracing diverse voices, the Foundation ensures the representation of all communities in the stories being told, driving the vision, strategy, and operations.

Personal Development

The governance structure promotes personal development, inspiring all decision-makers and providing guidance for executing the strategy. Integration and alliances across management levels foster collaboration and innovation.

Enabling the Voices of Youth

Engaging in impactful intergenerational exchanges informs the Foundation's strategic direction, content, programming, connections to heritage, and promotion.

Rotation

Balancing knowledge gained over time with succession planning and rotation of board members brings fresh perspectives. Retaining retiring members' expertise through opportunities like patron roles, non-voting membership, and committee and advisory positions is valuable.

Innovative

The governance structure encourages innovation and experimentation at all levels, staying relevant and proactive in responding to future needs.

CONCLUSION

Our Island, known both as Epekwitk and Prince Edward Island, stands as a unique destination, offering a rich blend of human history and natural heritage, as well as a diverse cultural makeup and a fascinating set of current and historical industries. Recognizing the significance of the Island's cultural and natural treasures, the Strategic Plan sets forth a comprehensive plan to holistically bring together the narratives of seven distinct sites. By doing so, we aim to highlight the Island's flora, fauna, land, and water, celebrate its diverse communities and traditions, and deepen visitors' understanding of its importance.

Through our seven heritage and culture sites, we strive to increase visitation to the Island, promote individual comprehension of its significance, and foster a profound sense of connection and belonging among visitors and residents alike. Each site within the system will maintain its individual identity while operating as part of a cohesive organization, sharing overarching values and principles.

By enlivening our offerings, we seek to provide participatory, dynamic, and deeply connective experiences at each site. Through exploration of the past and present, and in collaboration with the wider community, we can share untold stories of the Island, celebrating aspects of the Island’s heritage that have been marginalized. In this way, we aim to raise awareness and shape new perspectives.

Ultimately, our goal is to create an environment where visitors, tourists, and the local community feel a profound sense of belonging within our cultural and natural heritage sites. This resonant feeling will foster a collective aspiration to preserve the Island's heritage for generations to come, ensuring that future inhabitants and visitors continue to appreciate and cherish the treasures of this Island.

STAY CONNECTED!



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