



Media Release

For Immediate Release

Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum opens for the season

Port Colborne, ON (April 26, 2018) – With new exhibits on display, the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum opens its doors for the season on Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

The two exhibits currently on display are:

Stacking Up the Years (May-December): In 2018, INCO, now known as Vale, marks its centenary in Port Colborne. This exhibit examines the process of refining nickel together with the many influences the company has had on the community throughout the years.

Putting the Tea in Port Colborne (May – November): Arabella's Tea Room marks its 40th Anniversary in 2018!

Discover how the longest-operating volunteer-run tea room in Canada has grown from its humble beginnings in celebration of the tradition of afternoon tea!

"We're very excited about this year's exhibits as we were able to highlight two significant anniversaries in our community" commented Stephanie Powell Baswick, Museum Curator. "INCO, now Vale, has made significant economic impacts to our community and Arabella's has contributed to the community's culture."

The Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum, Heritage Village and Gift Shop is open daily from 12 – 5 p.m., including holidays, until December 20, 2018 and admission is FREE.

Some upcoming events at the Museum to mark on your calendar, include:

May 18, 2018 - International Museum Day! In honour of the 2018 International Museum Day theme, determined by the International Council of Museums, "Hyperconnected museums: New approaches, new publics" the Museum will be broadcasting LIVE from the heritage village and provide a FREE gift and refreshments to any visitor who joins them on May 18 from 12 – 5 p.m.

May 27, 2018 – 34th Annual Arabella's Pie Social & History Fair from 12 – 4 p.m. Visitors can enjoy a slice of homemade pie with hot or cold beverage at Arabella's Tea Room. Afterwards discover traditional skills at the Niagara Antique Power demonstration and the museum Blacksmith Shop. Spinning and tatting demonstration will be featured in front of the Log House. Print a card on the heritage press and try on a traditional costume. Perennial plants for sale by the pavilion are looking for a new home in your garden, and lots of gems to be found at the Towpath Treasures Flea Market.

June 1, 2018 – Arabella’s Tea Room opens for the season until September 30, providing tea and biscuits daily from 2 – 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Museum. In celebration of their 40th Anniversary, Arabella’s will offer “**Tea for Two**”, two for the price of one, June 1-9, 2018.

August 4 & 5, 2018 – 40th Annual Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival at the Museum from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

To learn more about Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum:

Visit 280 King Street, Port Colborne, or, www.portcolborne.ca/page/museum

Email: museum@portcolborne.ca

Call: 905-835-7604

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About Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum

Located at 280 King Street, Port Colborne, The Museum and Heritage Village feature a century of heritage buildings in a landscaped setting of historic gardens, pathways, trees and flowers, picket fences, and a memorial pavilion with picnic tables and benches.

The Village includes the original 1869 Georgian-revival style Home and Carriage House of Arabella Williams which houses the main exhibit galleries, Humberstone's first log schoolhouse where school tours are held, the 1850 log home of John and Sally Sherk, the F.W. Woods and Sons 1880 Marine Blacksmith Shop, a 1915 Edwardian Cottage, which is the home of Arabella's Tea Room, where volunteers serve Afternoon Tea with hot homemade tea biscuits and preserves, a Marine Exhibit Lighthouse, a reproduction of the parapet of Port Colborne's Lighthouse, which displays marine artifacts and ship models, and a Heritage Resource Centre which holds the Museums Reserve Collection and is open for research by appointment.

The Museum interprets and exhibits the history of Port Colborne and the Welland Canal. Marine artifacts include the Wheelhouse from the Yvon Dupre Jr. Tug Boat, the anchor from the Raleigh and a Lifeboat from the S.S. Hochelaga.

The Museum is the home of Canada's Century Car, the 1901 Neff Steam Buggy, one of Ontario's oldest existing automobiles, built by Benton Neff at the Neff Foundry in Humberstone, which is part of Port Colborne today.

About City of Port Colborne

Located on the south coast of the scenic Niagara Region, Niagara’s Port of Call has found the perfect balance – successful industrial and commercial sectors, comfortable and scenic residential areas, white sand beaches, unique culinary choices, the world class Sugarloaf Marina, fishing, golfing, trails, shopping districts along the historic Welland Canal and an energized festival and entertainment scene that includes live theatre – truly a community that adds to the overall Niagara Experience.

CONTACT: Michelle Cuthbert
Corporate Communications Office
michellecuthbert@portcolborne.ca
905-835-2901 ext. 307