




# COMMUNICATION UPDATE

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members City Council
<b>DATE:</b>	February 10, 2023
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Heritage Month and Heritage Day (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Carrie Brooks-Joiner Director, Tourism and Culture Planning and Economic Development Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

Heritage Day is an annual event offered by the City of Hamilton's Tourism and Culture Division in partnership with the Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association to raise awareness of Hamilton's rich history and heritage and celebrate the community achievements of those who work to preserve it. Heritage Day is part of the City's broader celebration of history within Heritage Month.

Members of Council are invited to attend Heritage Day, participate in all Heritage Month programming and to share information with their constituents.

Heritage Day 2023 marks the return to an in-person celebration with an event at the Dundurn National Historic Site on Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

This event includes:

- Greetings from heritage partners in the Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association and Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee.
- Mini presentations:
  - Dr. Richard Douglass-Chin on new insights into the history of the Griffin family, Griffin House and Hamilton's black history.
  - Preview of the new digital exhibition: Stories of Migration and Belonging (Series II), in partnership with Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council.
  - Engaging with Mental Health and Wellness Respectfully with Rebecca Hicks, Site Supervisor, Whitehern Historic House and Garden.

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

- Free admission to the exhibition Shell Shocked on loan from the Canadian Centre for the Great War on display at the Hamilton Military Museum.
- Launch of the 2023 Famous Hamiltonian Contest and the opening of the nomination period for The Reverend T. Melville Bailey Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement.
- Complimentary light food and beverages.
- Tour of the Dundurn National Historic Site.

**Other Heritage Month Programming:**

**Hamilton Civic Museums' Speaker Series: A Black History of Hamilton and Ancaster**

Deborah Brown-Simon, Julia Horton and Richard Douglass-Chin will be discussing Black presence in this area dating back to at least the 1830s. Discussion will focus on Griffin House National Historic Site; Black people in Ancaster; Black presence on Concession Street in Hamilton; Black businesses in downtown Hamilton; Black relationships with Sir Allan MacNab and Black organizing in the area.

Date:	February 21, 2023
Time:	7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location:	Ancaster Old Town Hall, 310 Wilson Street East, Ancaster
Cost:	Free event. Pre-registration is required. Tickets are limited.
Contact:	By telephone: 905-521-3168 E-mail: <a href="mailto:museums@hamilton.ca">museums@hamilton.ca</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hamilton.ca/museumevents">www.hamilton.ca/museumevents</a>

**Famous Hamiltonian Contest**

The peoples' choice for 2023 Famous Hamiltonian will be announced on social media channels at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 31. The recipient will be celebrated at George Hamilton Day weekend programming in August. The voting period runs February 25 to March 31.

**The Reverend T. Melville Bailey Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement**

The award is given for contributions in the promotion and preservation of Hamilton's heritage. Contributions may include publications, web-based communications, public or community art, service on committees, boards or commissions, and the preservation and promotion of heritage buildings or landscapes. Nominations are open at the Heritage Day event.

## **Hamilton Civic Museums Free for Heritage Weekend**

In honour of Heritage Month, all Hamilton Civic Museums will be open for visitation free of charge. Please note that our museums are not all wheelchair accessible, and strollers and infant carriers may not be taken on tour. There is an indoor area where strollers can be parked while on tour. Please note that Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum is closed on Sundays, while Griffin House National Historic Site and the Hamilton Children's Museum are both closed for construction.

Date:	February 25 and 26, 2023
Time:	12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Cost:	Free event. Pre-registration is required. Tickets are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.
Contact:	By telephone: 905-521-3168 E-mail: <a href="mailto:museums@hamilton.ca">museums@hamilton.ca</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hamilton.ca/museumevents">www.hamilton.ca/museumevents</a>

## **Social Media Content**

The following social media channels will have enhanced heritage content during the month of February:

Instagram:

- @hamilton\_civilmuseums
- @tourismhamilton
- #HamOntHeritage

Facebook:

- <https://www.facebook.com/HamiltonCivicMuseums/>

Further information can be found on the City of Hamilton website:

- Heritage Day Celebration at Dundurn National Historic Site: <https://www.hamilton.ca/things-do/festivals-events/events-calendar/heritage-day-celebration-dundurn-national-historic-site>
- All Hamilton Civic Museum Events: [www.hamilton.ca/museumevents](http://www.hamilton.ca/museumevents)

For more information, please contact Meredith Leonard, Senior Curator, Learning and Interpretation by e-mail at [Meredith.Leonard@hamilton.ca](mailto:Meredith.Leonard@hamilton.ca) or by telephone at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6223.

## **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

N/A