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**Newsletter – April 2008**

ANNAPOLIS HERITAGE SOCIETY

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***The Heritage Builder's Ball***

**Our major fundraiser of the 2008 season**

Come dance the night away Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, as the Annapolis Heritage Society proudly presents our major fundraiser of the 2008 season – the Heritage Builders' Ball! This very special event, in honour of the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the deGannes-Cosby House, is designed to do two things: recognize the extraordinary tradition of built heritage and stewardship in our area **and** raise funds for the ongoing work of the Annapolis Heritage Society.

The Ball, to be held at the Annapolis Legion from 9 pm to 1 am, will feature continuous music, with classic ballroom sounds from the Annapolis Big Band and classic rock and soul from our own DJ! We are thrilled to report

that Garry Freeman and his team will work their decorating magic on the space, and refreshments and wonderful “builder” door prizes will be part of the evening. Dress is formal, but if you'd prefer to wear your heritage costume, that would be wonderful!

You need lots of room to dance, so we're selling only 144 tickets, at a cost of \$50 each (tax receipts will be issued). Don't be disappointed. We expect this fabulous event to sell out, so please call AHS Executive Director Ryan Scranton and get your name on the ticket list as soon as possible.

We need sponsors, door prize donors and volunteers, so that all the money from ticket sales goes to support the work of the Annapolis Heritage Society. If you'd like to be a sponsor, a donor or a volunteer (or suggest somebody who would), please contact Jane Nicholson at [jane@mrsnicholson.com](mailto:jane@mrsnicholson.com) or Ryan Scranton at (902) 532-7754. Thanks!



The 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the deGannes-Cosby House on St George Street in Annapolis Royal has inspired the Heritage Builder's Ball.

## *A Letter from the President*

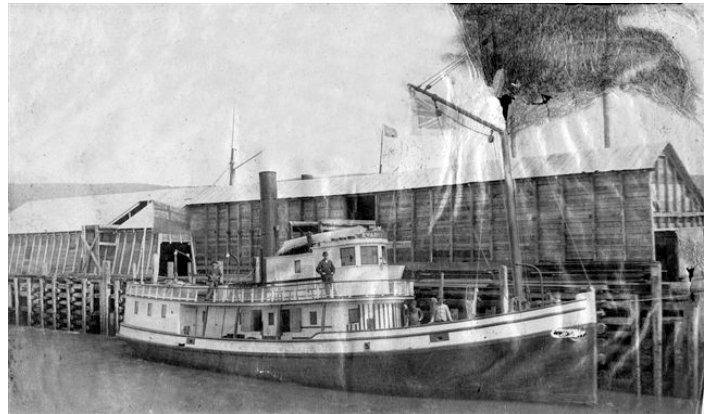
On April 2, 2008 a public meeting regarding the future of the Annapolis Royal Wharf was held at the Firehall in town. The Annapolis Heritage Society was one of the original group of not-for-profit associations that formed a separate Annapolis Royal Wharf Society to take over ownership of the town wharf from the Federal Government in 2001. The other local groups involved at that time were the Haul-up Association, King's Theatre, the Farmer's Market, with representation from the town council, the Annapolis District Board of Trade and the Western Valley Development Authority. Since then, other players have also joined the table, including the Acadia Sea Cadet Camp and the Annapolis Region Tourism Council.

More than a decade ago, the wharves in Annapolis Royal and Digby were identified as the two single most important undeveloped economic generators that exist in our area. As Visitors to our "seafaring" exhibit at the O'Dell House Museum can observe, the Annapolis Basin has had a proud past as part of this region's strong maritime tradition. The decayed remains of wharves along the Annapolis / Granville shoreline demonstrate that former importance. But what of the future? The beauty and serenity of our natural harbour is not in dispute, but, to the boater, it is limited by a lack of access and services. The fact that the wharf does not reach the river channel means that twice a day it is high and dry, severely hampering its use by fishermen, recreational boaters and others. Currently the sea cadet camp bases its boats in Weymouth during the summer due to limitations of the current Annapolis Royal Wharf. And these are kids with an \$8000 per year ice cream budget! More high-end boaters are being squeezed out of the crowded American eastern seaboard, and these same people have the interest and resources to visit our unspoiled shores. The opportunity for visits by tall ships and participation in international regattas is also greatly enhanced if we have that access and those service is place.

The business plan presented at the public meeting calls for a 75 foot extension to the wharf (bringing it to its pre-1988 and viable length) with the addition of a marina to the east (i.e. causeway) side of the proposed new extension, at an estimated cost of \$2 million. A business plan is required to have any

success with ACOA (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) and the "basin" community must come up with \$300 000.00 as its share of the project.

Ian Lawrence, AHS President



Wharves have historically played an important role for those living along the shores of the Annapolis Basin. This image depicts the steam packet *Evangeline* at the Corbitt Wharf in Annapolis Royal. This wharf was located on the waterfront behind where King's Theatre sits today

### ***O'Dell House Museum 2008 Summer Exhibits***

This summer we have an interesting and varied group of exhibits coming to the O'Dell House Museum. Themes for this season include Frederick William Wallace and his photography of the local dory fishery, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of Albert Bigelow Paine's book *The Tent Dwellers* and the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists in Annapolis County. As details evolve, we will be placing more information about these exhibits on the AHS website [www.annapolisheritagesociety.com](http://www.annapolisheritagesociety.com).

*A Camera on the Banks* is an exhibit created by the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in conjunction with guest Curator Dr. M. Brook Taylor from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax. The exhibit makes use of photographs taken by writer and photographer Frederick William Wallace who, for a time in the 1920s, worked on schooners fishing out of Digby. During his trips, Wallace documented the daily activities of the fishermen while they were working. These photographs, many of which feature residents of Annapolis and Digby counties, are the central part of this exhibit. Through the images we learn about the life of the fishermen, the type of work they were doing as well as how the dory fishery worked. This exhibit was built as a travelling exhibit and has

already been seen at the Maritime Museum, Yarmouth County Museum and the Fisheries Museum in Lunenburg. Due to the physical size of the exhibit, we will be co-hosting *A Camera on the Banks* with the Admiral Digby Museum.

In 1908 Albert Bigelow Paine released a book which has since become a classic tale of a trip through backwoods Nova Scotia. *The Tent Dwellers*, which is centred in the area currently known as Kejimikujik National Park, tells of the adventures of Eddie (Dr. Edward Breck), Paine and their guides Del the Stout (Del Thomas) and Charles the Strong (Charles Charleton). In honour of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of this book, we are creating an exhibit which will look at the main characters from the book as well as displaying relevant artifacts from the AHS collections. A highlight of this exhibit is bound to be the recreation of a canopy from a coniferous forest.

Finally, 2008 is also the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists in Annapolis County. Using the stories of several local families, we are building an exhibit which will look at various aspects of the Loyalist experience. Far from being the simply the upper crust of colonial American society, the Loyalists represented all facets of that society. This is a group who quite literally included everyone from slaves to aristocrats. Our exhibit will use artifacts and images to tell the stories of how the Loyalists came to settle in Annapolis County and who these people were. Additionally, this exhibit is a part of numerous Loyalist themed activities which will be taking place throughout Nova Scotia this summer.



Backwoods guides will play an important role in *The Tent Dwellers* exhibit at the O'Dell House Museum this summer. This image, taken circa 1895 comes from the AHS's Harris collection

## ***A Review of Annapolis Royal's Heritage Weekend 2008***

In February, the Annapolis Heritage Society once again partnered with the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal and the Town of Annapolis Royal to celebrate Heritage Weekend. The event, which stretched the weekend from Friday night through to Tuesday, was an excellent opportunity of people throughout the community to take part in heritage based activities.

Included among the speakers this year were AJB Johnson and Kent Thompson who spoke about their new books *Endgame 1758* and *The Man Who Said No*. Johnson's book chronicles the events leading up to the final British capture of the Fortress of Louisbourg in 1758 while Thompson's discusses certain events in the life of Jacob Bailey, the Revolutionary War era rector of St Luke's Anglican Church in Annapolis Royal. Both presenters provided very informative evenings and a great deal of insight into their individual topics.

Other events included the presentation of an historic properties map, to the town of Annapolis Royal. This map, based on the 1878 Bird's Eye Map of Annapolis Royal, was designed by the Nova Scotia Historic Places Initiative (NSHPI) and a digital version can be found at <http://www.nshistoricplaces.ca/maps/index.php>. Essentially, the map has modern photographs of many heritage buildings in Annapolis Royal with lines linking them to their location on the map. Additionally, Jeffery Reed from the NSHPI gave a workshop at Town Hall in Annapolis Royal on standards for rehabilitating heritage buildings, Anne Crossman updated the community on the preparations for Ernest Buckler's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and Musique400 had a performance at St Luke's Church.

An additional component of the Heritage Weekend activities, as mentioned in the Education Committee's report, was the AHS's archaeology presentations to the Grade four and five classes at Champlain Elementary School in Granville Ferry. These presentations are always enjoyable for both the students and the presenters.

The AHS would like to thank all of our organizing partners as well as the multiple organizations and individuals who helped to make the weekend a success. We look forward to our next opportunity to work with our partners to highlight the important role that heritage plays in our community.

## ***Education and Outreach Committee Projects***

The mandate of the AHS Education and Outreach Committee is to increase understanding of, and interest in, local history and heritage through the organization of programming directed towards school groups and community members. Here are three of our recent and ongoing projects.

### **Heritage Day School Program**

At Champlain Elementary School, we presented a Heritage Day 2008 program, *The Magical Town Beneath Annapolis Royal*. Grades Four and Five students were delighted to meet our own resident archaeologist, AHS Board member Dr. Niki Clark, dressed and ready to conduct a dig. Niki's kid-friendly slide show on recent digs around town primed students for the more exciting hands-on activity that followed. She also explored the notion of how climate change might affect the work of archaeologists in coming years.

Students got a chance to delve into the contents of Nova Scotia Museum boxes set-up to simulate archaeological earth layers containing various "artifacts" that were "dug" out and examined. In true dig fashion, grids were placed over the layers and students recorded on graph paper the location of each object. The obvious engagement of the students was testament to both the value of the program and its quality.

Committee members Judy MacClare-Butler, Sharon Hawboldt and Sherry Caldwell were on hand to help out. Students went away with a better understanding of the role of the archaeologist in learning about how people lived in the past, and in particular, in the past of our own town, Annapolis Royal.

### **AHS / David Armstrong Memorial Scholarship**

Once again, for the third year, publicity for the award of our \$1000 scholarship is in place. Information for interested 2008 Annapolis West Education Centre graduates has been disseminated in poster form in town, at the high school and on the AHS website. Recipients of the award to date are Tim Cress and Michael Sampson. The family of the late David Armstrong and AHS jointly established the scholarship in 2006.

The intention is to award the scholarship annually to a deserving graduate of the Annapolis West Education Centre who intends to further her/his studies at the post secondary level in history or a history related field. A component of the award is the submission by the candidate/s of a plan for an activity of practical use, either for the visiting public or a visiting class to one of our sites, i.e., The O'Dell, the Sinclair or North Hills. For complete details about the scholarship, check the AHS website at [www.annapolisheritagesociety.com](http://www.annapolisheritagesociety.com) Presentation of the scholarship takes place in June at the AWEC graduation.

### **Tales From A Tiny Perfect Town 2008**

Participants in last October's tale, *5 Stab Wounds in the Governor*, will be happy to hear that the Outreach Committee has begun discussions on this year's production. Plans are in the embryo stage but suffice it to say that, though the format will be very different, the content, presentation and general richness will be abundantly present... all this in addition to a little of the naughtiness inherent in the life of late 18th century Annapolis Royal, even then "a tiny perfect Town".

Sherry Caldwell, Chair,  
Education and Outreach Committee

### ***Chief Benjamin Pictou***

Pre-eminent among the Mi'kmaq of southwestern Nova Scotia in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was Chief Benjamin Pictou. He was born 7 September 1830 at the Eel Wier near Lake Kejimkujik to Mathew Pictou and his French wife Henriette Guillot (Gehue). Henriette was a daughter or granddaughter of Emanuel Guillot or Juilléhaut, an Acadian grantee at Saint Mary's Bay in the 1790s. Like other area Mi'kmaq of the period, the family lived a nomadic lifestyle, moving inland in the harsh winter months and returning to the coast for the summer. A second child, Christine, was born to the couple and was christened 18 July 1841 in the Acadian church of Ste. Croix at Plympton on Saint Mary's Bay. Christine Pictou married 22 September 1864 Stephen Comeau, an Acadian. During the summer of 1842 Joseph Howe, Nova Scotia's first Commissioner of Indian Affairs, toured the province's recently created reserves. The census he took at the Bear River reservation (L'sitkuk) noted the presence of Mathew Pictou with his French wife and two children. In his early years

Benjamin Pictou joined with his father in their new life tilling the soil on reservation land. At the age of 19 Benjamin left home and sailed with a Captain Morehouse on his Barquentine from Bear River to Boston. After two years he returned home and settled on reserve land at Lequille. He also maintained the old family camping ground on the west side of the Digby Gut and from here, paddled the Bay of Fundy in his canoe, scooping salmon in the spring and shooting porpoises. The rendered porpoise oil he sold in Annapolis Royal, Digby and Saint John for \$1.25 per gallon. Later in life he worked as a cooper, a trade that employed many Mi'Kmaq men in the area in the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Madeline, the wife of Benjamin Pictou, died at Lequille 4 February 1914. Benjamin had given up hunting and fishing around his 80<sup>th</sup> year, and turned to basket-making which he carried on for the remainder of his life. The Chief voted for the first time at the age of 96 in the general election on 29 October 1925. He gave an address and led the dance at his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party at Lequille on 7 September 1930. Benjamin Pictou died on 30 March 1931 in his 101<sup>st</sup> year. A three-gun salute informed residents of Lequille of his passing.

### ***His Family***

Benjamin Pictou was married twice. His first wife, Mary Ellen Gloade, whom he married 21 January 1855, died in childbirth with their son Joseph. Benjamin married secondly 11 February 1857 Madeline Paul, born 10 February 1839. The couple had eight children that survived infancy.

Eldest son Silvi or Silbye Pictou, born 7 September 1859, died 14 November 1943, chief after the death of his father, married Rachel Jeremy, born 15 April 1864, died 7 March 1936, daughter of Francis and Mary Ann (Siloam) Jeremy. They had children:

- a. Francis Pictou, born circa 1887
- b. Benjamin Pictou
- c. Joseph Pictou
- d. Samuel Pictou, born 27 September 1898, married 30 August 1920 Juila Chtistmas, daughter of Stephen and Bella (Louis) Christmas
- e. Louis Pictou, born May 1901, married 18 April 1927 Evangeline Margaret Francis, daughter of Andrew and Addie (Lowe) Francis
- f. Mary Pictou, born December 1908

Daughter Rosa Pictou, born 3 February 1862, died 21 June 1939, married Abram Paul, born 7 February 1854, died 28 June 1928, son of Francis Xavier and Elizabeth (Jeremy) Paul. They had children:

- a. Joseph James Meuse Paul, born 7 June 1880, married Helen Hammond, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Daniel) Hammond
- b. Louis Paul, born 19 April 1883
- c. Laliah Paul, born 7 July 1886, married Joseph Jeremy, son of Joseph and Kate (Luxey) Jeremy
- d. Rachel Paul, born 26 October 1889
- e. Madeline Paul, Born 1 October 1891, married 7 August 1907 Joseph Francis, son of Stephen and Katie (Michael) Francis
- f. Fannie Paul, born 6 January 1894, married 23 April 1919 Stephen Joseph Meuse, son of Chief James and Margaret (Peters) Meuse

Daughter Sarah Ann Pistou, born 22 May 1864, married Joseph Fossie, born October 1861, son of Joseph and Molly (Gloade) Fossie. Joseph and Sarah Ann Fossie raised two adopted children:

- a. Mary E. Fossie, born June 1891
- b. Estella Evangeline Gehue married (as his second wife) Joseph Jeremy, son of Joseph and Kate (Luxey) Jeremy

Daughter Margaret Pictou, born 16 October 1866, died as a young woman, married Freeman Peters 1878.

Son John Pictou, baptized 11 February 1870, died 26 January 1943, married Mary Elizabeth Charles, born 16 February 1885, died 27 March 1930, daughter of Stephen and Margaret (Hammond) Charles.

Daughter Eliza Pictou, born 10 August 1871, died 13 November 1933, married John Paul, born 5 August 1870, died 8 March 1926, son of Joseph and Madeline (Barthelmy) Paul. John and Eliza Paul raised two adopted children:

- a. James Paul
- b. Rosie Paul

Son James Pictou, born July 1875, died 17 October 1946, married Mary Lucy Gloade, born 10 February 1877, died 3 February 1942, daughter of John and Christina (Comeau) Gloade. James and Mary Lucy Pictou raised an adopted son:

a. James Louis Pictou

Daughter Mary Christine Pictou, born 11 April 1878, married 25 October 1905 Joseph Penall, born 11 January 1872, died 16 March 1950, son of James and Mary Ann (Paul) Penall. They had children:

- a. John Penall, born April 1901
- b. Madeline Penall, born October 1909
- c. Mary Madeline Penall, born 28 December 1915, died 26 March 1936

Benjamin and Madeline Pictou also raised an adopted daughter Elizabeth Pictou, born 7 June 1885, married 16 August 1915 John Martin Pictou, son of Malti and Ann Pictou.

By Ian Lawrence



An image from the AHS's Harris Collection. This photograph was taken circa 1900.

### ***North Hills Museum Events Schedule for June and July 2008***

For more information on any of these events please contact North Hills Museum Site Supervisor, Janice Slauenwhite at thurbejl@gov.ns.ca or 902-532-2168. For a listing of all this years events at North Hills Museum please visit our website [www.annapolisheritagesociety.com](http://www.annapolisheritagesociety.com).

#### ***June 20 – 22, Three Day Writer's Workshop with Donna Morrissey.***

***Cost \$100.00 - advance registration required***

This event is your chance to spend the weekend learning from award winning Maritime writer Donna Morissey. The event features seminars, readings and writing sessions.

#### ***June 28, Loyalist Costume workshop featuring Ken Nye***

***9:30am - 5pm advance registration required please call for fees***

Get ready for the 225th anniversary of the Loyalists' arrival in Annapolis County by learning the basics of making your own period costume with a renowned local costume maker.

#### ***July 4, Fourth of July Country & Bluegrass Jam Session***

***7:00pm***

You are invited to join or watch our talented local musicians during this free family evening, back by popular demand.

#### ***July 13, Artifacts and Interiors***

***10am - 5pm***

Watch as local and provincial artists paint using the North Hills Museum site and collections as their inspiration. You may even be able to bring one of these pieces home with you.

#### ***July 26, Loyalist Quilting Workshop***

***9:30am – 5pm advance registration required please call for fees***

Learn to create a traditional Loyalist quilt with instruction by local artisans.

#### ***July 27, Granville Ferry Community Picnic***

***2pm – 5pm***

Join us for a traditional community potluck celebration of both the 225th anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists in Annapolis County and North Hills Museum's ongoing connection to Granville Ferry. Please feel free to wear your historic costumes to the event.

#### ***Do You Have?***

The O'Dell House Museum is looking for a number of artificial Christmas trees for our *The Tent Dwellers* exhibit this summer. It is our plan to use branches from these trees in the exhibit room to create a replica of the canopy found in a coniferous forest. If you have an artificial tree that you would be willing to donate for this purpose, please contact Ryan Scranton at [historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca) or 902-532-7754.



Many images in the AHS collection are unfortunately unidentified. This image of a distinguished looking gentleman comes from the Harris Collection and was taken about 1900. Do you have any thoughts about who this may be? If you are interested in volunteering to help identify images from our collections please contact Ryan Scranton at the O'Dell House Museum.

**Annapolis Heritage Society**  
**136 St George Street**  
**PO Box 503**  
**Annapolis Royal, N.S.**  
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**President**  
**Ian Lawrence**

**Executive Director**  
**Ryan Scranton**



***Genealogy Books and CD Roms For Sale***

**\*\* All prices include shipping and handling charges\*\***

**Due to the ongoing fluctuations with the Canadian dollar, we have removed our American pricing. Please contact the AHS at historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca for current American pricing.**

***Resources on CD Rom***

	<b>CDN \$</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bear River Telephone and News Vital Statistics by Wayne Morgan	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Christian Messenger Vital Statistics 1837 – 1884 by Wayne Morgan	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Annapolis County Probate Abstracts by Wayne Walker	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Annapolis Newspaper Vital Statistics 1832 – 2004 by Wayne Morgan	\$36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Annapolis County Regiments by Wayne Walker <b>*NEW*</b>	\$30.00

**AHS Genealogical Centre Books**

Please visit our website [www.annapolisheritagesociety.com](http://www.annapolisheritagesociety.com) for a full list of books.

<input type="checkbox"/> Master Artificer John Easson by Ruth Ritchie	\$41.00
<input type="checkbox"/> John Harris Esquire by Wayne Morgan	\$53.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Starratts and their Descendants by Luella Marshall	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Descendants of Loyalist Andrew Ritchie by Ruth Ritchie	\$46.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Scattering of the Descendants of Robert Hicks by Luella Marshall	\$43.00

Please make cheques payable to **Annapolis Heritage Society**

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal / Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# *Annapolis Heritage Society Annual Giving*

This is your chance to help the Annapolis Heritage Society preserve, present and promote your history.

The AHS has always relied on the generosity of its members, whether in donating artefacts, archival material, cash or hours of volunteer effort. Our leadership in developing museums and supporting heritage preservation has much to do with our members. As both the Federal and Provincial governments continue to decrease their support of heritage based activities we are constantly searching for new ways to replace these long time sources of funds.

Donations to Annual Giving help us to meet basic operating needs, expand existing programs and services, and build our collections. It is only through the generosity of our members and friends that we are able to maintain a high level of service.

Your support is essential to our future. Please help us to ensure that **your** history has a secure home. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Annapolis Heritage Society.

*Yes, I would like to make a gift of:*

**\$25** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$50** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$100** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$250** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Prov/State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my gift to support:

General Operations \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to: **Annapolis Heritage Society**. All donations \$25 and above will be issued a Canadian tax receipt.

AHS Annual Giving Fund  
PO Box 503  
Annapolis Royal, NS  
B0S 1A0

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## ***AHS Request for Volunteers***

The AHS is constantly in need of volunteer labour. It is only through the dedication and generosity of our volunteers that the AHS has been able to play an important role in preserving, promoting and presenting the heritage of Annapolis County. In this edition of the newsletter, we will profile a few of the volunteer committees and opportunities that can be found at the AHS. If you are interested in helping out with one of the following positions or have other skills you would like to share, we would be thrilled to hear from you. We greatly appreciate the generosity and dedication of the volunteers who allow the AHS to function. Please contact us at one of the numbers given below or at 902-532-7754 or [historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca)

**Job Title: Accessioning Clerk**  
Committee: Collections Management and Archives  
Time Required: Approx 4 hours per week  
Contact Person: Ryan Scranton 532-7754  
Job Description: Document new acquisitions to the AHS artifact and archival collection by:  
-Making an identification number on each item  
-Recording details and description of item on hard copy forms and in digital database  
-Researching items as needed

**Job Title: Genealogical Research Volunteer**  
Committee: AHS Genealogical Centre  
Time Required: One afternoon per week  
Contact Person: Ryan Scranton – 532-7754  
Job Description: Genealogical Centre volunteers assist researchers who are using AHS resources.  
-Develop knowledge of AHS genealogical reference collection  
-Collection of research fees and sales of retail merchandise as needed  
-Shelving of genealogical resources

**Job Title: Heritage Builder's Ball Volunteer**  
Time Required: As needed until July 12, 2008  
Contact Person: Ryan Scranton 532-7754  
Job Description: Assist with the organization and preparation of the Heritage Builder's Ball by:  
-helping with decorations  
-selling tickets  
-promoting the event  
-helping with food preparation  
-various other tasks as required