

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS



Land Acknowledgement and Commitment:

The Association of Nova Scotia Museums (ANSM) is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on this territory in mutual respect and gratitude.

ANSM is a members-based organization that supports museums throughout the province. Due to historical and systemic biases, museums do not currently represent the experience of all Nova Scotians. The loss of language and the colonization of cultural identity, including Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian, and Gaelic communities, has resulted in incomplete and inaccurate representations of cultural groups.

Narratives relating to Indigenous peoples, Nova Scotia as the birthplace of African presence in Canada for over 400 years, including enslavement and abolition, and the role of women, people of colour, LGBTQ2S+ people, and recent refugees and immigrants have not been adequately represented or made accessible.

We—ANSM, museums, and the greater heritage community—are actively addressing these challenges together. ANSM is using our training, resources, tools such as NovaMuse, and programs like TRACK, to work towards the inclusion of these stories in partnership with communities. We are creating spaces and collections in which all Nova Scotians will see their reflection.

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The Association of Nova Scotia Museums gratefully acknowledges the ongoing financial support of the Department of Communities Culture Tourism & Heritage.

ANSM took the leap to go digital last year! As noted by the CMA in [A Sustainable Development Guide for Canada's Museums](#): "Museum employees' activities have a direct impact on the environment. It is possible to establish structures that will help reduce those impacts." Please click on the hyperlinks in the annual report for additional information. If you would still like a printed copy of this information, please consider printing separate sections of the report. This report can also be found on [our website](#). Thank you for helping us make this change in efforts to do better for our planet.



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President's Message

Dear ANSM Members,

At a time when non-profit and cultural organizations are facing an ever-growing list of challenges, I couldn't be prouder of ANSM's continued efforts to find solutions for sharing information, educating the public, and empowering museums to be innovative, inclusive, and sustainable. The role ANSM provides for our province's impressively large museum community is more important than ever.

Advocating to the provincial government at the beginning of 2023 provided a great opportunity to reflect on everything ANSM does, but also everything that you—our member museums—offer to Nova Scotians. As a collective we represent all regions of the province, and all types of museums at various funding levels. Together we share concerns, common goals, and a unified voice for all museums in Nova Scotia.

ANSM serves Nova Scotian communities by serving the museums that anchor, engage, and empower those communities. In the past year ANSM's services have included education through workshops, library resources, webinars, and conferences; as well as an extensive new training, resources, assessment, coaching, and knowledge-sharing program (TRACK) that is being piloted as an innovative redesign of the previous Museum Evaluation Program. Advisory services include NovaMuse— a robust and nationally recognized collections database system that allows the public to access, search, and interact with dozens of museum collections online. ANSM also benefits Nova Scotians outside of its member institutions by providing post-secondary educational opportunities, collaborating with other organizations within the Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia, and by advocating for the province's entire museum and heritage sector. Additionally, ANSM maintains valuable outreach and partnerships with other organizations with similar mandates both within the province and across the country.

I'm proud of the work ANSM is doing, and I'm equally impressed by the work member museums big and small do to enrich their communities. You are all economic drivers, boosting tourism, spending money on local businesses and trades, and encouraging residents to invest their dollars in their own communities. You are employers, community partners, safe spaces, recreational spaces, and places that improve both physical and mental wellbeing. You bring university graduates into the heritage sector, families to rural communities, and visitors from youth to seniors to your facilities to reap the educational, social, and health benefits that you offer.

ANSM is keenly aware of the difficulties museums currently face, with recent survey results suggesting that many of you are risking reducing operating hours, cutting staff, and cancelling programming if better operational funding cannot be secured. We were very pleased to receive a positive outcome in funding increases for the heritage sector following out advocacy to the provincial government, and we will continue, with your help, to advocate for museums in the province. We want to ensure that we can all continue our important work bettering our communities.

As a small not-for-profit ANSM does surprisingly big things. This feat is accomplished in no small part due to ANSM's outstanding staff. A huge thank you to Maggie MacIntyre and Karin Kierstead, and the other full- and part-time staff members they have managed in the last year, for their incredible dedication, innovation, and enthusiasm. ANSM's success is a result of their time (and overtime) and effort. I would also like to thank



the board, and all working groups and committees for their many volunteer hours, and their invaluable expertise. Your experience in the museum sector, whether you're just starting out or have a decades-long career in heritage, can be a huge asset to a small organization like ANSM that has such an expansive menu of programs. We are always looking for new committee members for a wide variety of projects, and I can personally attest that lending a hand to ANSM is a very rewarding experience.

I would also like to acknowledge the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage; Canadian Heritage's Museums Assistance Program; Halifax Regional Municipality; and Support4Culture for their funding and support of our organization.

Last but not least, thank you for your membership. Thank you for your attendance at ANSM events, for sharing your questions and experiences, for your engagement and energy. Thank you for being a part of Nova Scotia's unparalleled museum community.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer season and year ahead,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie Tanner
ANSM President

Executive Director's Message

2022-23 was a reframing year for museum across Nova Scotia and at the Association of Nova Scotia Museums. After the last few years were marked by COVID-19, it was great slowly return to the familiar – in-person events and busy museums. It was however far from a return to old times. The world has shifted for museums and ANSM has been here to support museums adjust to our new normal.



ANSM launched 2022-23 with a commitment to increase our support of EDIA (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility) in museums. We knew this work was not going to be easy but we had no clue how the more we did, the more it would transform all ANSM programs. The Unlocking Community Museum Collections project brought us together with museums in Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian, and Gaelic communities. Many learnings came from these sessions that not only informed the ReconciliAction Plan developed as a result of these community meetings, but also influenced our development of the TRACK program, our professional development offerings, and the development of our new strategic plan. We know this work will continue to transform ANSM and museums in the years to come.

We were so pleased to see so many of you in person this year. There were many opportunities to gather this year to learn and celebrate. ANSM was able to support two national conferences that both came to Halifax this year. Nearly 30 ANSM members received bursaries to these two conferences! In addition to a return to some in-person training and meetings, we were also proud to be able to bring museum professionals together to celebrate our successes, presenting the 2021 and 2022 Accreditation Plaques, the ANSM annual awards, and honouring fifteen museum professionals with The Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal.

It was not a year without challenges. At the ANSM office we often spoke about how we've focused on museum fundamentals but now finding ourselves focusing on what've been calling the new ABC's of museum work: Advocacy, Burnout, and Community. We see these as key concepts to address as we move forward.

I would like to end by thanking everyone who has supported ANSM this year. We are a small but mighty team. Hugest thanks to Karin Kierstead, official job title, Program Manager, actual job title Heart and Soul of ANSM. Also thank you to Brittany Houghton, our Members Services Coordinator, who always kept us laughing, but who returned to her conservation bench and to pursue further studies at the end of March. To our many interns and short-term contract staff (Sandi, Phillip, and Jacob), you amazed us with everything you accomplished. To our many working groups, thank you for being our support, our guide, and for keeping us accountable. And finally to the ANSM board, it is a pleasure and honour to work with a board that is supportive, cooperative, and cares for not only the work of the organization but also for the staff. I will be returning to the Nova Scotia Museum at the end of September but I look forward to continuing to support ANSM efforts and museums across the province throughout my career.

All the best,

Maggie MacIntyre
ANSM Executive Director

Association of Nova Scotia Museums

Our Purpose: To nurture excellence in and champion on behalf of museums in Nova Scotia.

Our Vision: ANSM is a vibrant not-for-profit organization led by our members. We are a national leader in the museum community that collaborates with many and diverse partners to provide relevant and engaging services that strengthen museums. We celebrate that museums in Nova Scotia are ever-changing. They reflect and are actively engaged in their communities, are environmentally and financially sustainable, and operate according to professional standards. Our natural and cultural history becomes inspiration for a better tomorrow.

Our Mandate: Working in partnership with museums, communities and supporters, ANSM's mandate is to:

- Support professional best practices in Nova Scotia's museums;
- Educate Nova Scotians about the value of museums and Nova Scotian stories;
- Act as a champion on behalf of museums in Nova Scotia;
- Engage in activities with provincial, national and international partners that further ANSM's aims and benefit the museum sector as a whole.

Our Values: The following values underpin what ANSM does and how we work:

- Service - meet the needs of member museums so that we can together meet the needs of communities;
- Advocacy - act as a champion on behalf of and raise awareness about museums in Nova Scotia;
- Collaboration - engage in activities with local, provincial, national, and international partners that benefit our members and the museum sector as a whole;
- Inclusivity - recognize historical and systemic practices in museums, decolonize these practices, and work with museums and equity-deserving groups to find appropriate solutions;
- Sustainability - operate in environmentally responsible ways and work to ensure that ANSM and member museums have the resources they need to serve their communities.

ANSM Museum Definition:

Museums are public institutions in the service of society and its development, with a shared responsibility to collect, preserve and communicate knowledge. They strive to be safe spaces that provide access to information and foster opportunities for critical thinking, learning, dialogue, collaboration and social action.

Members

As of March 31, 2022, the Association included 56 Advisory Service Museum Members, 41 Institutional Museum Members, 39 Individual Members, and 7 Affiliate Members. Members are involved with the Association in a variety of ways including serving as board and committee members, course participants and instructors, conference planners and presenters as well as project partners.

Honourary Members

Individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the Association and the Museums of Nova Scotia.

Brian Cuthbertson

Gary Selig

Eric Ruff

Wilma Stewart-White

Sylvia Whitehead

In Memoriam

ANSM would like to recognize the loss of two important members of the Nova Scotia heritage community.

Dr. Peter "Pete" Cullen (1972-2023)

Kathleen MacLeod (1951-2023)

Leadership

The Association of Nova Scotia Museums is led by its Board of Directors. This governance body is comprised of members elected by the ANSM membership at the Annual General Meeting. The Board is accountable to the membership and is collectively responsible for the governance of the Association. It is responsible for shaping organisational policy and ensuring its implementation.

The Board identified the following priorities for 2022-23:

- Continued implementation of ANSM Strategic Plan 2019-2023 and adjust in response to COVID-19 interference
- Implement delivery of the Accredited Museum designation
- Respond to restructuring to Museum Evaluation Program and development of TRACK program
- Training & Workshops – continued implementation of the Training Plan (2010)
- Advisory Service and related activity continue as core program, including Unlocking Community Museum Collections Project
- Increase advocacy to provincial government for museum funding
- Deliver the ANSM Award Program and Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medals

Strategic Plan 2019-2023

In 2019 ANSM launched a four year strategic plan, covering the fiscal years of 2019-2023. ANSM contracted the services of A. L. Arbic Consulting and Barbara Richman for the development of the plan. The development of the plan was well researched, including group and one-on-one interviews with ANSM board, staff, funders, community partners, and other community stakeholders as well as an online survey with ANSM members and a two-day strategic planning retreat with ANSM board members and staff.

Five key strategic issues were identified:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Financial Stability | External Relations |
| Programming | Accreditation |
| Human Resources | |

The strategic plan was reviewed by the board several times to adjust to external factors not-foreseeable during development, most notably the COVID-19 pandemic and the end of the Museum Evaluation Program. These significant events resulted in the board and staff having to adjust several goals and objectives to reflect changing realities.

A summary of the accomplishments of the strategic plan include:

Financial Stability: Changes to the ANSM membership structure allowed ANSM to increase revenue from non-government sources. Government pandemic funding was also sourced to support ANSM's operations.

Programming: The Advisory Service increased by five museums. Due to the pandemic ANSM excelled in its goal of maximizing online delivery of services. This included the timely launch of NovaMuseEd which resulted in great success than originally hoped. Education and professional development transitioned from in-person to virtual offerings and saw an initial increase in enrollment. A conference was held in 2019 for ANSM members and then ANSM partnered with other organizations for conferences in 2021 (online - LAMNS), 2022 (Interpretation Canada) and 2022 (Museums Canada). A bursary program began in 2022 to support attendance at the Interpretation Canada Conference and the Award program was redeveloped to recognize achievements by both individuals and organizations.

Human Resources: Staff and board resources were supported and increased focus was made to renew and implement HR policies and procedure as well as governance policies. ANSM increased its use of interns to support our work. Additionally, upon the retirement of Executive Director Anita Price, in 2021, Maggie MacIntyre was hired on a two year secondment. The Members Services Coordinator was filled by four staff during this period.

External Relations: ANSM continued to work with federal and provincial staff on the development of museum policies and funding programs. This additionally included COVID-19 support for museums.

Accreditation: The Accreditation program was launched in 2020 based on 2019 Museum Evaluation Program results. Four museums were granted accredited museum status in the first year. The program was then paused due to COVID-19, and resumed in 2022 based on 2021 evaluations. Nine additional museums were granted accreditation. The accreditation program was flagged in 2022 as needing a review due to the switch from MEP to TRACK.

Strategic Plan 2023-26

With the current plan coming to an end in 2023, a new strategic plan was developed in Fall-Winter 2022-23 to be presented at the June 2023 AGM. The plan will support ANSM's operations until the 2026 AGM. The new plan incorporates the following key issues: Transition, Realistic Expectations, and EDIA. The strategic goals will focus on four key areas: Services, Building Capacity, Bridging, and Financial. The full plan will be shared with ANSM members at the AGM and on the ANSM webpage. We look forward to providing annual updates on our progress.

Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors 2022/2023

President: Katie Tanner, 2022-24
Vice-President/Northeast Regional Director: Oralee O'Byrne, 2021-23
Treasurer/Central Regional Director: Joanne Boudreau, 2022-24
Secretary/Southwest Regional Director: Peter Cullen, 2019-23
Director at Large/Cape Breton Regional Director: Matthew Cook, 2022-24

Director at Large: Nicole Dalrymple, 2021-2023
Director at Large: Sara England, 2022-24
Director at Large: Tegan Smith, 2022-24

Staff

Staff implement the Association's mandate to serve its members through evaluation, training, outreach and networking activities. They regularly attend regional meetings, events, exhibitions and programs, meetings, and planning sessions. They provide province-wide programs and services including site visits, consultations and workshops.



Maggie MacIntyre, Executive Director Brittany Houghton, Member Services Coordinator (May 2022-March 2023)
Karin Kierstead, Programs Manager Sandi Stewart, Casual/Conference Support

Interns/Practicums

Madeline Hoyle (Fleming College, May - August 2022)
Emma Bronsema (University of Western Ontario, May-August 2022)
Olivia LaPierre, (Mount Saint Vincent University, September - December 2022)
Jordyn Riou (Mount Saint Vincent University, January - April 2023)
Jacob Agnew (Centennial College, March - April 2023)

Partnerships 2022-2023

Partnerships are an intrinsic part of the operations and success of ANSM programs and initiatives. In turn, the Association offers its support and resources to organisations engaged in related work.

The Association partnered with the following companies and organisations in 2022-2023:

[Baile nan Gàidheal | Highland Village Museum](#)
[Black Cultural Centre of Nova Scotia](#)
[Canadian Conservation Institute](#)
[Canadian Heritage Information Network](#)
[Canadian Museum Association](#)
[Council of Nova Scotia Archives](#)
[Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia](#)
[Dalhousie University](#)
[Department of Canadian Heritage](#)
[Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage](#)
[Halifax Regional Municipality](#)
[Halifax Cape Breton Connection](#)
[Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association](#)
[LAMNS \(Libraries, Archives & Museums Nova Scotia\)](#)
[Library and Archives Canada](#)
[Membertou Heritage Park](#)
[Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre](#)
[Millbrook Heritage Centre](#)
[Mount Saint Vincent University](#)
[Museums Canada](#)

[Musée des Acadiens des Pubnicos](#)
[Nova Scotia Museum](#)
[Parks Canada](#)
[Saint Francis Xavier University](#)
[Saint Mary's University](#)
[Support4Culture](#)
[Les Trois Pignons](#)
[University of Toronto](#)
[Whirl-i-gig](#)

Memberships 2022 -2023

ANSM is a member of:

[American Association for State & Local History](#)
[Canadian Museums Association](#)
[Heritage Cape Breton Connection](#)
[Council of Nova Scotia Archives](#)
[Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia](#)
[Impact Organizations of Nova Scotia](#)
[Indigenous Curatorial Collective](#)
[Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia](#)

The Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia (CFNS) is the umbrella organisation that provides administrative and operational support for eight cultural federations (including ANSM) sharing combined office facilities and related cost share services. CFNS also provides access to a Pension & Health Benefits program for ANSM member organisations. The Executive Director of ANSM serves on the CFNS Management Committee as well as the Board of Directors.



Membership

Types of ANSM Memberships

An ANSM membership is a great way to connect with the museum community in Nova Scotia. ANSM serves as a champion on behalf of museums and educates Nova Scotians about the value of sharing our province's vibrant cultural history. Becoming an ANSM member offers many opportunities for professional development and networking, and is a way to become more involved in our museum community.

The new membership structure was introduced at the start of the 2021 membership year. The membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. If you are interested in joining ANSM simply print and fill out a [membership form](#) or [complete form online on our website](#).

Institutional Memberships

Type	Cost	Benefits
Blue Level: Museums and Societies with budgets of \$100,000 or less	\$100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning event discounts for staff and board members (in person and virtual), including workshops, symposia, conferences and more.• Access to the Advisory Service• A link to your museum's website on our Members page• Eligibility to participate in the Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia Benefits Program• 2 Votes at the Annual General Meeting• Access to lending library• Sharing of Job Competitions through the ANSM Job Board and our bi-weekly e-newsletter The Beacon
Yellow Level: Museums and Societies with budgets of \$100,001-\$250,000	\$175	
Purple Level: Museums and Societies with budgets of \$250,001 - \$500,000	\$275	
Green Level: Museums and Societies with budgets of \$500,000 or more	\$500	
Affiliate Membership <i>For organizations that support the activities of museums in Nova Scotia</i>	\$100	

Individual Memberships

Type	Cost	Benefits
Individual Membership	\$50	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning event discounts (in person and virtual), including workshops, symposia, conferences and more.• 1 Vote at the Annual General Meeting• Access to ANSM's lending library
Student Membership	\$25	
Virtual Membership	\$35	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning event discounts (virtual only), including workshops, symposia, conferences and more.

Corporate Memberships

Type	Cost	Benefits
<p>Corporate Membership</p> <p><i>For businesses and organizations that are excited to benefit from visibility in, and engagement with, the museum community, while supporting the activities of museums in Nova Scotia</i></p>	<p>\$500</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo in our bi-weekly e-newsletter The Beacon • Announcement with your logo in our annual report • A link to your business or organization's website on our Member Museums page • Learning even discounts (in person and virtual), including workshops, symposia, conferences and more • Access to ANSM's lending library • Sharing of Job Competitions through the ANSM Job Board and our bi-weekly e-newsletter The Beacon



Communications

Communications are a key area of activity for ANSM and we strive to keep information fresh, accurate, relevant, and useful. ANSM regularly communicates with members in a variety of ways including the [Beacon e-newsletter](#), social media ([Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)), [blog posts](#) and more. In April 2022, ANSM released [a new website](#) with a new look and a focus on user-friendliness.

The website provides information about the Association, its programs and events, job postings, organizational reports, personnel information, museological resources, lists of museum members by region with links, archives and sign-up capacity for the Beacon e-newsletter, online registration and payment options utilizing Stripe. The website links users to NovaMuse.ca as well as the ANSM and NovaMuse social media pages and staff blog.



The Beacon e-newsletter is a dynamic communication tool for ANSM. It provides information about professional development opportunities, new services and resources as well as changes to the organization. There is a dedicated section that provides resources for EDIA (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility). These resources link readers to articles, podcast links, projects, webinars, presentations, etc. The Beacon also includes a section called the Cuddy, which provides information about grants, advocacy

Website statistics (April 1 2022 – March 31, 2023)

19,830 visits from 11,461 users (up from 13,534 visitors in 2021-22)

48,707 page views (up from 38,720 page views in 2021-22)

2:24 minutes average time on site

2.46 average page views per visit

Location: 65.25% of users were from Canada, 15.71% of users were from the US, and 19.04% of users were from the rest of the world.

ANSM engages with the museum community and others on its social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter. The ANSM Facebook page is used to share our programs, members' events, heritage-related news, useful resources, pictures of museums and events and to keep in touch with interested individuals and organizations. The Facebook page has 2,068 followers (an increase of 211 followers from 2021/22). The NovaMuse Facebook page has 696 followers (an increase of 11 followers from 2021/22). With 494 followers (an increase of 1 follower from 2021/22), Twitter is primarily used for NovaMuse collections information sharing and engagement. Used primarily for CollectiveAccess tutorials and other videos of interest from our members, ANSM's YouTube page had 4,144 views, 231.6 hours of watch time, and 167 subscribers.

the **cuddy**

beacon
E-LETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

alerts and job postings, as well as news from ANSM members, government agencies, and heritage-related organizations. Beacon Specials are dedicated newsletters that highlight particular ANSM events, news, conferences, or initiatives. Over the past year (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023), 38 editions (including 15 Beacon Specials) were sent to 698 subscribers.



Over the past year ANSM has regularly provided information about membership renewals, workshops, conference registration, the ANSM Awards program and AGM notices. Community museums participating in the Advisory Service and the TRACK Program also received communication with information about the current year's Advisory Service activities and key training program information.



Staff regularly attend seasonal regional meetings (via Zoom in spring 2022 and in-person 2023) and provide reports on ANSM activities. The Fall meetings were sponsored by the TRACK program, which included providing lunch, to allow for broad membership consultation about proposed changes to the program. They also participate on committees of related heritage organizations as well attend meetings, museums' community activities, events and presentations. ANSM staff provide expertise and support in consultation with museum members, provincial museum associations, government departments and others. Comprehensive written reports are provided to the Board of Directors by the Executive Director for each board meeting.



Accreditation

[Accreditation](#) is awarded to museums that excel in their assessment. The designation is awarded to sites, rather than to services, collections, individuals, or umbrella groups. Applications will be adjudicated by a peer Accreditation Panel. Museums are eligible to apply for Accreditation in their assessment year during the 4-year evaluation cycle.

A group of museum representatives from across Nova Scotia worked with ANSM on a steering committee to develop the new TRACK Program that was released in March 2022. The committee created an application and review process, and developed policy and procedural guidelines for the Accreditation process that ensure industry standards are met or exceeded for all sites that receive the designation. The TRACK Program is the professional assessment and feedback mechanism for museum operations across Nova Scotia. Accreditation is the public acknowledgement of excellence in our museums. It demonstrates a museum's commitment to public accountability and professional standards.

Museums will be able to showcase their designation on-site, as well as on promotional materials, digital platforms, and in grant applications, and will be featured on the ANSM website.

Museums must repeat the process every 4 years in order to maintain their "Accredited Museum" status. Organizations that manage multiple sites will be required to undergo evaluation for each site, as the designation is site-specific.

No museums were granted 'Accredited Museum' in 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic as no museums were evaluated in 2020. The review process returned in January 2022 based on the 2021 summer evaluations. The successful museums were announced on International Museums Day 2022 (May 18th).

Congratulations to the following museums who were granted Accreditation in 2022:

Age of Sail Heritage Centre
The Army Museum
Colchester Historeum
Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum
Kings County Museum

Mahone Bay Museum
Margaret Fawcett Norrie Heritage Centre
Memory Lane Heritage Village
Ottawa House By-the-Sea Museum

This initiative is supported by and presented in partnership with Nova Scotia Gaming Support4Culture, the sponsor of the inaugural years of the Museum Accreditation Program.



In celebration of International Museum Day on May 18, 2023, ANSM, with the support of Nova Scotia Gaming Support4Culture, announced that Fultz House Museum has been granted the designation of Accredited Museum.

Museums receive this designation by participating in the TRACK Program and meeting eligibility requirements. In order to be considered for accreditation, museums submit a voluntary application for review. This designation demonstrates a museum's commitment to community service, public accountability, and professional standards.

ANSM has worked in collaboration with highly experienced museum professionals to establish a strong and accountable assessment process. See the ANSM website for details on the accreditation process and its benefits. <https://ansm.ns.ca/museum-accreditation-program.html>

TRACK Program

The announcement for [the TRACK Program](#) was released on March 10, 2022 as a replacement for the Museum Evaluation Program. 2022 was a pilot year with the full program scheduled to launch in Fall 2023.

TRACK stands for Training, Resources, Assessment, Coaching, and Knowledge-Sharing. The program uses training and assessment to build on the success of the Museum Evaluation Program (MEP) with an increased focus on coaching, needs assessment, and capacity building. As a result, ANSM will offer an increase in training in various ways, including webinars, workshops, updates to existing ANSM Training, and connecting museums with external resources.

Many museums identified the value of original MEP in helping them update their standards of operation and guiding them on how to become stronger, more engaged organizations. TRACK expands beyond museum standards to include EDI, accessibility, responding to climate change, and more. This program will continue to be operated by ANSM who will contract additional professionals to provide content specific training and advice, including support of its working group (TRACK WG) and approval from CCTH. Museums participating should notice a decrease in work required to participate and an increase in training provided.

Program Development in 2022-23

This year was the first of two development years for TRACK. During this time, ANSM worked with a wide variety of museums, content experts, and community members to develop the program. ANSM has committed to museums that the new TRACK program will be a program developed by and for museums, rather than a program imposed upon them. The goal is that this program will be less work and of greater value to all museums participating.

Training: In 2022-23, several training opportunities were presented to TRACK participants at little to no cost to registrants. These offerings are outlined in the training section of this report.

Resources: ANSM has a well established resource lending library, as well as an extensive assortment of resources on its website and office. ANSM was able to organize and catalogue its backlog of resources to better support TRACK participants.

Coaching: Coaching will be a key part of TRACK, which will include supporting museums in their training and assessment process.

Knowledge-Sharing: At regional meetings and in user surveys, ANSM regularly heard that museums want to learn from each other. TRACK sponsored the 2022 Fall regional meetings to bring together museums in-person. This allowed ANSM to discuss the future of TRACK with participants, as well as encourage knowledge-sharing that already happens at these meetings. The Fall regional meetings were used to discuss a proposed significant change to the program – moving from a full assessment for museums once every four years to doing two sections of the assessment every year, repeating every four years. Museums in all four regions were very positive about this change as they felt it would encourage regional collaboration and facilitate knowledge-sharing.

Assessment: Assessment will replace the evaluation document. Last year, the ANSM staff and TRACK working group used the Museum Evaluation Program evaluation tool to create a first draft of the assessment tool. This included dividing the assessment tool into standards questions, expert peer review questions, and self-reflection. This year, the assessment document underwent three significant developments.

The first major development in 2022-23 was the document was sent to nearly 30 “readers” who included museum professionals and content experts from EDI, accessibility, climate change, and community engagement sectors. All readers were asked to infuse their area of expertise into the document. ANSM used this feedback to redevelop the document.

The second major development in 2022-23 was the first pilot. Six museums were given the TRACK assessment tool and asked to provide feedback. The six museums who completed the first pilot were: Scott Manor House Museum, Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Ross Farm Museum, Haliburton House Museum, and DesBrisay Museum. These museums were selected to reflect a variety of funding and operating models, as well as due to their proximity to Halifax (Round 2 and 3 pilots will focus on museums further away). The museums did not hold back with their feedback and, as a result, hundreds of changes were made to the assessment document.

The third major development was working with a designer to make the assessment tool more user friendly. This newly designed document was launched for round 2 of TRACK pilot early in the 2023-24 year.

TRACK is made possible through support by the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage.

TRACK Working Group 2022-23:

Lynette de Montreuil (Chair), Desbrisay Museum and Wile Carding Mill

Rodney Chaisson, Highland Village Museum

Nicole Dalrymple, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Matthew Hughson, Fisherman’s Life Museum

Karin Kierstead, ANSM

Amber Laurie, Nova Scotia Museum

Maggie MacIntyre, ANSM

Kellie McIvor, Halifax Regional Municipality



Awards

ANSM continues to celebrate individuals, volunteer and staff, as well as organizations who have made remarkable contributions to our community of museums in Nova Scotia through the [Award for Excellence in Museum Practices](#).

ANSM presented the Awards for Excellence in Museum Practices program for the tenth consecutive year.

ANSM accepts nominations in two awards categories—Individual Contribution, and Programming by an Organization. The association was pleased to receive nominations for both categories this year, and to be able to announce a winner in each.

Over the past year, the dedicated work of the ANSM Board of Directors and Awards Committee members—Chair Katie Tanner and members Lisa Wolfe, Peter Cullen, Debra McNabb, Joyce Rankin, and Matthew Cook—along with the assistance of Executive Director Maggie MacIntyre, has made this year’s awards presentations possible.



2022 Association of Nova Scotia Museums Award for Excellence in Museum Practices, Programming by an Organization

The Award of Excellence in Museum Practices, Programming by an Organization recognizes an outstanding museum project within the past year. ANSM is pleased to present this award to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic for their “Ta’n me’j Tel-keknuo’ltiek - How Unique we Still Are” exhibit.

The following project summary is an excerpt from the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic’s nomination: “The exhibit, Ta’n me’j Tel-keknuo’ltiek illustrates the unique ways that the Mi’kmaq continue to be connected to the lands, and especially the waters, of Mi’kma’ki. The concept Ta’n me’j



Telkeknuo’ltiek—“the unique way we continue to be”— is used to show how the Mi’kmaw people past and present are shaped by their deep and abiding relations to the place they sprouted from. The exhibit employs single-word concepts and first-person, multi-generational interviews (oral histories), images and artifacts, to give a broad contextual understanding of the unique way the Mi’kmaq continue to be. An emphasis on treaty relations is central to the concept and serves as a through-line connecting the exhibit’s themes and narratives.”

2022 Association of Nova Scotia Museums Award for Excellence in Museum Practices, Individual Contribution

The Award of Excellence in Museum Practices, Individual Contribution acknowledges remarkable contributions by a museum professional (volunteer or paid) to a better knowledge of Nova Scotia's human or natural history. ANSM is pleased to present this award to John Tate.

John spent the first decade of his career with the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and later the Nova Scotia Museum in the late 1990s where he worked as a museum technician and preparator. He crafted models, mounts, exhibit components, and repaired just about everything. The following is an expert from his nomination:



"[John Tate's] dedication, creativity and insightfulness in mount making, molding, casting and prop development for public programs demonstrates excellence in museum practice. His craftsmanship and development of new ideas and approaches to display objects and works of art is innovative and has been critical in supporting museums to create a positive impact and access to a better understanding of the human and natural history in our province.

[...] His many colleagues over the years all have a deep respect for his dedication, creativity, and commitment to quality museum work in the face of an often challenging and fast-paced environment."

Congratulations to both the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and John Tate on their worthy receipt of these awards!

The CMA awards Anita Price the 2022 President's Medal

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022, former ANSM Executive Director Anita Price received the President's Medal from the Canadian Museums Association (CMA). The medal, which recognizes exceptional contributions to the museum sector across the country, was awarded to Anita at a virtual ceremony.

Throughout her 12 years with ANSM, Anita worked tirelessly to ensure that museums throughout Nova Scotia received the services and resources that they need to thrive. Upon her retirement, she has left the association and all of its member museums in a strong and optimistic position for the future, despite the many obstacles facing heritage organizations today.

Anita's leadership has made Nova Scotia a shining example for museum associations and heritage sectors across the country and beyond. Luckily for the rest of Canada, she has brought the same energy to her involvement with museum advocacy on a national level. Her impact on museums, their workers, communities, and patrons is meaningful, lasting, and deserving of recognition. ANSM congratulates her on her receipt of this award—it is a well-earned honour!



Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medals



ANSM is proud to have been given the opportunity to recognize 15 Nova Scotians in the museum sector with [Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal](#). This medal is being given to Nova Scotians who have made significant contributions to the province, particularly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Her Majesty's reign embodies the importance of commitment to one's community, and the Platinum Jubilee Medal honours those who have demonstrated an unwavering dedication to their professions and the well-being of the province," said Lt-Gov. Arthur J. LeBlanc.

The induction ceremony took place as part of the ANSM and [Interpretation Canada Conference](#) during the opening ceremonies and awards gala. Later regional celebrations happened for inductees who were unable to attend the ceremony on October 3, 2022.

Please join us in congratulating the following recipients:

Rodney Chaisson, Director, Baile nan Gàidheal | Highland Village Museum, works to ensure the museum is an authentic celebration of the story, language and living culture of Nova Scotia Gaels. He is an advocate for museums and a support to colleagues.

Eamonn Doorly, Boat Builder at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, has led the program Building Boats, Changing Lives. This program works with youth, mostly in diverse, marginalized communities, teaches life skills through boat building.

Ethel Feener, Gift Shop and Admissions Manager at Ross Farm Museum, works by the policy of putting a smile on each visitor's face. Her insight was invaluable to museum health and operations during the pandemic.

Joleen Gordon is completing 50 years as a Research Associate with the Nova Scotia Museum. Her research and writing works predominantly with African NS and Mi'kmaq communities. She is generous with sharing knowledge, especially about baskets and wooden flowers.

Penny Harvey is Financial Administrative Officer for the Nova Scotia Museum. Community museum and NSM sites alike rely on Penny's knowledge and willingness to help. Her coordination of museum pandemic efforts improved staff and visitors' safety across Nova Scotia.

Judith Hoegg Ryan is a historian, writer, and public speaker. Her expertise on industrial heritage and oral history has contributed to events and organizations in Pictou County, including the Museum of Industry, the Town of Stellarton, and Davis Day and Westray Disaster commemorations.

Elke Ibrahim is volunteer curator and vice-chair at Old Town Hall Museum, Glace Bay. The limited resources of a volunteer-run museum doesn't stop her from doing big work, be it engaging with community, promoting environmental issues, or repairing historic infrastructure.

Karin Kierstead, Museum Programs Manager, Association of Nova Scotia Museum, is the coach in the corner to community museums. Through her work with CollectiveAccess, NovaMuse, evaluation, and training, she works tirelessly to help museums and museum workers throughout Nova Scotia.

Janice Kirkbright, Executive Director, Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum, works to keep the museum relevant. Through core and targeted programming, and pop-up farmers markets, she works to build awareness of Nova Scotia farming, food innovation, and food choices.

Dr. Roger Lewis, Mi'kmaq Cultural History Curator, Nova Scotia Museum, works closely with Mi'kmaq communities to gather and record information about their cultural objects. He regularly advises museums and educators on how to present treaty rights and Mi'kmaq history.

Susan Marchand-Terrio is Executive Director at Isle Madame Historical Society / LeNoir Forge Museum. She is recognized locally as "consistently and faithfully" leading the organization. Her contributions to the provincial museum sector include championing community museums in discussions around evaluation and accreditation.

Carol Nauss is Curator at Lordly House Museum in Chester. She runs the municipal museum with passion and professionalism. Her community-minded approach shows in the museum and the surrounding Lordly Park, maintained by the museum for community use.

Stephanie Smith, Executive Director for Archives, Museums, and Libraries, helps build capacity by emphasizing good practices at museums in Nova Scotia. She encourages museums to root themselves in community service and engagement, while striving to tell diverse stories.

Ashley Sutherland was Archivist/Curator at Colchester Historeum. She implemented creative solutions and a strong sense of social justice to create exhibits, research, and collections management that prioritize telling "lost histories." Her work gave people pride and curiosity in their history.

Joanne Watts, Manager, Chestico Museum, is a champion of Port Hood area history and culture. From researching and sharing stories to organizing events and activities, she generously shares her time, knowledge, and expertise for the benefit of the entire community.

Thank you for your continued passion and dedication to the heritage community!

Training and Community Sessions

In 2022-23, ANSM's [training offerings](#) took place in-person and online and the [community gatherings](#) for Unlocking Community Museum Collections took place in-person. Training opportunities and community sessions were well received by members with strong registration numbers and positive feedback.

Museum Studies Program – Year Three

[The Museum Studies Program](#) is a series of eight courses covering core museological functions. Three courses are offered per year on a rotating 3-year schedule, and typically take place at museum venues across the province to allow for maximum participation.

The courses are provided in workshop format and offer a combination of lecture, group discussion and exercises. Participants can take the courses in any order, though Year One is structured to offer core principles of administration and operation. It includes Museums 101, Museums & Community, and Museum Management & Governance. Year Two modules include a repeat presentation of the popular Museums 101, Collections Management & Curatorship, and Interpretation I: Public Programming. Year Three includes Interpretation II: Exhibitions, Facility Management and Marketing & Revenue Generation.

Interpretation II: Exhibitions

Interpretation II: Exhibitions introduced:

- » Creating successful visitor experiences
- » Use of different types of interpretive resources, including artifact, archival materials, and intangible forms of heritage
- » The interpretive planning and exhibition development process
- » Designing for interactivity in museum exhibitions
- » New trends in museum exhibitions

Facilitator: Marc Bélanger

Date: April 1, 2022 to May 6, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 30

Marketing & Revenue Generation

Marketing & Revenue Generation introduced:

- » Gain an understanding of marketing in museum goals of museums and creating a successful visitor experience
- » Learn to develop an effective marketing and communications plan and tactic
- » Digital and inbound marketing
- » Social media
- » Customer service
- » Basic fundraising methods
- » Identifying, assessing and capitalizing on public and contributed funding opportunities
- » Examples of good practice

Facilitator: Carrie Lunde

Date: May 13, 2022 - June 10, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 24

Facilities Management

Facilities Management introduced:

- » Public safety and services
- » Building environment
- » Security
- » Workplace safety
- » Facility and site planning
- » Federal standards and guidelines for the conservation of historic places.

Facilitator: Barry Rodenhiser

Date: September 2-29, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 26

Course for Fee to Saint Mary's University (MOA)

Museum Fundamentals & Decolonizing Collections (Spring/Summer 2022)

Presenter: Karin Kierstead

Date: May - August, 2022

Participants: 9

This 6-credit hour course familiarizes students with the fundamentals of museum theory and practice, and contributed to ANSM's efforts to assist museums in decolonizing their collections.

Students spent the spring session in the classroom and the summer session in a museum-related internship.



TRACK Speaker Sessions

Museums As Agents of Change

Presenter: Mike Murawski

Date: April 27, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 64

Museums everywhere have the potential to serve as agents of change—bringing people together, contributing to local communities, and changing people's lives. This was the first event in our new speaker series for the TRACK program. Mike Murawski discussed the work we need to do as museum professionals to tap into the energies within all of us to make change happen and proactively shape a new future. After more than 20 years of work in education and museums, Mike is an outspoken advocate for change across the field of museums. Mike is the author of *Museums as Agents of Change: A Guide to Becoming a Changemaker* (2021), author of the Substack publication *Agents of Change*, and co-producer of *Museums Are Not Neutral*, a global advocacy campaign calling for equity-based transformation across museums.

Introduction to EDI with Chrysalis Human Rights Agency

Presenter: Chrysalis Human Rights Agency

Date: August 17, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 50

Museums were invited to jumpstart their learning on equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and refresh their understanding on how to build a more inclusive work environment? Participants joined ANSM and Chrysalis Human Rights Agency for a 1-hour overview of EDI terminology as we began our deep dive into what it takes to create an environment where everyone has a sense of belonging.

Accessibility and Museums with Kiera Sparks Lucas

Presenter: Kiera Sparks Lucas

Date: September 14, 2022

Location: Online

Participants: 55

Kiera Sparks Lucas, a disability advocate shared her experience and advice on making museums more accessible. Kiera shared her lived experience as a person with disabilities as well as learnings from her work experience with Black Cultural Centre, Museum of Natural History, and Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.



Mi'kmaq Community Engagement Day

Presenter: Theresa Meuse, Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre

Date: November 9, 2022

Location: Mi'kmaw Friendship Centre (Halifax, NS)

Participants: 74

Mi'kmaq Community Engagement Day was a day of learning with Theresa Meuse at the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre. Conversations included Culture 101, Truth and Reconciliation, bias in the workplace, how we can work together, and more.

Unearthing the Impacts of Unconscious Biases and Microaggressions

Presenter: Dr. Rohini Bannerjee, Associate Vice-President, Diversity Excellence, Saint Mary's University & Deborah Brothers-Scott, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor, Saint Mary's University

Date: January 17, 2023

Location: Online

Participants: 51

This session was designed to better understand unconscious bias and microaggressions in our everyday. By increasing self-awareness and encouraging a deep reflection of our own behaviour, participants were encouraged to fine-tune strategies to mitigate the impacts of unconscious bias and microaggressions.

Additional Workshops

Still Image Digitization for Heritage Professionals (CCI-CHIN)

Presenter: Ern Bieman, Canadian Conservation Institute and the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CCI-CHIN)

Date: May 26, June 2, 9, & 16, 2022

Location: Online

This online workshop was co-hosted by the CNSA and ANSM. This online workshop provided in-depth training over multiple sessions on still image digitization of reflective objects and small transparencies. While various means of scanning were covered, demonstrations focused on flatbed and slide scanners. Topics included digital imaging concepts, equipment selection criteria, verification of specifications claimed by vendors, software selection and use, general considerations for archiving and publishing, digitization workflow, project planning and project management. This workshop adhered to FADGI (Federal Agencies Digital Guidelines Initiative) technical guidelines.

Reconsidering Museums Workshop

Presenter: Caroline Loewen, Communications Lead for the Alberta Museums Association and Project Lead for the national research and advocacy project Reconsidering Museums

Date: March 8, 2023

Location: Online

Participants: 69

Reconsidering Museums is a national research and advocacy project exploring the role, value, and future of museums in Canada. The website and toolkit launched March 15, 2023. The resources developed through this project provide adaptable values-based messaging that bridges the gap between museums and their publics, substantiates the value of museums with data-driven insights, and helps shape public dialogue around the vital role of museums in our society. Participants learned more about the project and how the resources can help your museum better connect with and serve your communities, deepening your relationship, and therefore your relevance, to the Canadian public.

Introduction to Re-org Workshop

Presenter: Anita Price

Date: March 29, 2023

Location: Margaret Fawcett Norrie Heritage Centre (Tatamagouche, NS)

Participants: 10

This one day workshop offered a comprehensive introduction to the RE-ORG Method and applying it to museum collections storage areas. The RE-ORG Method is a step-by-step approach for small to medium-sized heritage institutions. It aims to help them reorganize their collection storage rooms and regain access to their collections for enhanced community involvement.



Interpretation Canada 2022 Conference

Storytelling: Making People Care Since...Forever

The [2022 National Conference](#) was organized in partnership with Interpretation Canada. The conference explored the connection between interpretation and storytelling.

The 2022 Conference included:

- Keynote by Canadian novelist Lawrence Hill
- Concurrent sessions, giving many ANSM members an opportunity to present at a national conference
- Study tours featuring many ANSM sites, including two Halifax tours, South Shore Tour, and Annapolis Valley Tour.

Facilitator: Association of Nova Scotia Museums and Interpretation Canada

Date: October 3-7, 2022

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Participants: 129 at conference, of which 59 were ANSM members



Unlocking Community Museum Collections

This year ANSM launched the [Unlocking Community Museums Collections](#) initiative, in collaboration with community partners from the Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian and Gaelic communities. Nine gatherings across the province brought community members and museum representatives together to talk about collections, culture, history, and how museums can better serve communities. The original plan of developing a digitization strategy for cultural collections was expanded, and the gatherings' calls to action became ANSM's ReconciliAction Plan. This is a living document that provides guidance to both ANSM and member museums, and serves as a tracking and reporting tool for sharing progress with communities.

Acadian Community Sessions

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Participants
Pubnico, NS	July 12, 2022	1:00-3:00 pm	Musée Acadiens des Pubnicos	25
Chéticamp, NS	October 14, 2022	2:00-4:00 pm	La Salle des Aînés	30

African Nova Scotian Community Sessions

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Participants
Digby, NS	July 11, 2022	1:00-3:00 pm	NSCC (Learning Commons)	24
Cherry Brook, NS	August 4, 2022	6:00-8:00 pm	Black Cultural Centre	17

Gaelic Community Sessions

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Participants
Iona, NS	July 27, 2022	2:00-4:00 pm	Highland Village	18
Antigonish, NS	August 22, 2022	1:00-3:00 pm	Hall of the Clans, Angus L Macdonald Library	18

Mi'kmaq Community Sessions

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Participants
Membertou, NS	July 26, 2022	2:00-4:00 pm	Membertou Heritage Park	21
Millbrook, NS	August 3, 2022	10:00-12:00 pm	Millbrook Heritage Centre	17
Halifax, NS	Sept 6, 2022	9:00-12:00 pm	Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre	34

ANSM held a session at Saint Mary's University on October 3, 2022 during the annual conference, which included presentations and group discussions about this work and next steps. ANSM reviewed the results of the first 8 community engagement sessions between Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian, and Gaelic communities and community museums. Research conducted in partnership with Saint Mary's University students was also discussed. This session was open to all and highly recommended for all ANSM Advisory Service member museums. 22 participants.



Advisory Service



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

This cooperative program operates on a fee-for-service basis, providing participating museums collections management support through training, databases (CollectiveAccess) and online sharing ([NovaMuse.ca](https://novamuse.ca)). ANSM's Member Services Coordinator provides the bulk of support to these museums, both virtually and in-person. Additional support comes from the Programs Manager. Community collaborations give opportunities for museums to participate in special initiatives that increase knowledge of and improve access to collections.

This year ANSM launched the [Unlocking Community Museums Collections](#) initiative, in collaboration with community partners from the Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian and Gaelic communities. Nine gatherings across the province brought community members and museum representatives together to talk about collections, culture, history, and how museums can better serve communities. The original plan of developing a digitization strategy for cultural collections was expanded, and the gatherings' calls to action became ANSM's ReconciliAction Plan. This is a living document that provides guidance to both ANSM and member museums, and serves as a tracking and reporting tool for sharing progress with communities.

[NovaMuseEd](#) grew in content and use this year. Four new resources were added, with additional drafts nearing completion. ANSM staff presented NovaMuseEd at multiple museums as part of the Social Studies Teachers Association Conference in October 2022. NovaMuseEd resources were downloaded 6,735 times over the course of the year, a 44% increase from the previous year.

Educational partnerships continue to grow and develop. ANSM's annual partnership with Fleming College provides students with invaluable experience working in CollectiveAccess as its use continues to expand across the country. Eight museums opened their databases to students for proofreading and research, resulting in improvements to 220 collection records. Reports to museums outlined the work conducted and suggestions for how to continue with collections information improvements.



In addition to these projects and initiatives, Advisory Service members continued with ongoing collections work, having collectively documented 368,000+ objects and linked 339,000+ images and media files.

ANSM staff maintain regular communications and provide support to participating museums through various forms including the [ANSM blog](#), our social media platforms ([Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)), by email, phone, Skype and Zoom. This blend of mediums enables ANSM to share professional resources, promote museum activities and collections, as well as ensure that museums are aware of various activities.

The Advisory Service Working Group is the operating committee of ANSM and provides guidance and direction to program activities. Group membership includes ANSM staff, museum representatives as well as collections management and other specialists. This year the group updated its terms of reference and increased meetings to better meet museum and community needs.

Group members are:

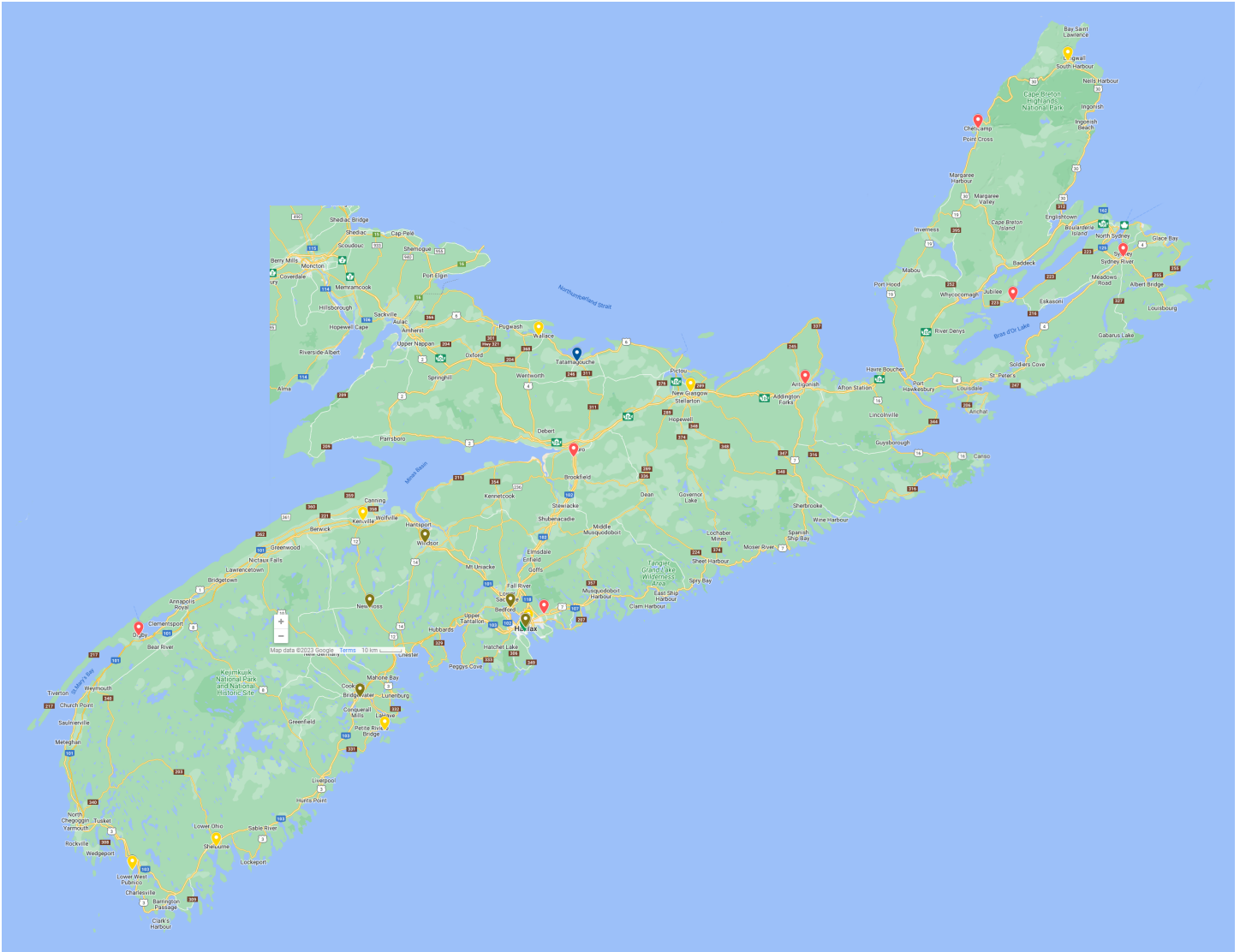
Chara Kingston (Chair), The Army Museum
Jillian Barteaux, Annapolis Heritage Society
Anna Cross, Nova Scotia Museum
Brittany Houghton, ANSM
Karin Kierstead, ANSM








Maggie MacIntyre, ANSM
Kellie McIvor, Halifax Regional Municipality
Krystal Tanner, Wolfville Historical Society
Angie MacIsaac, Strait Area Museum

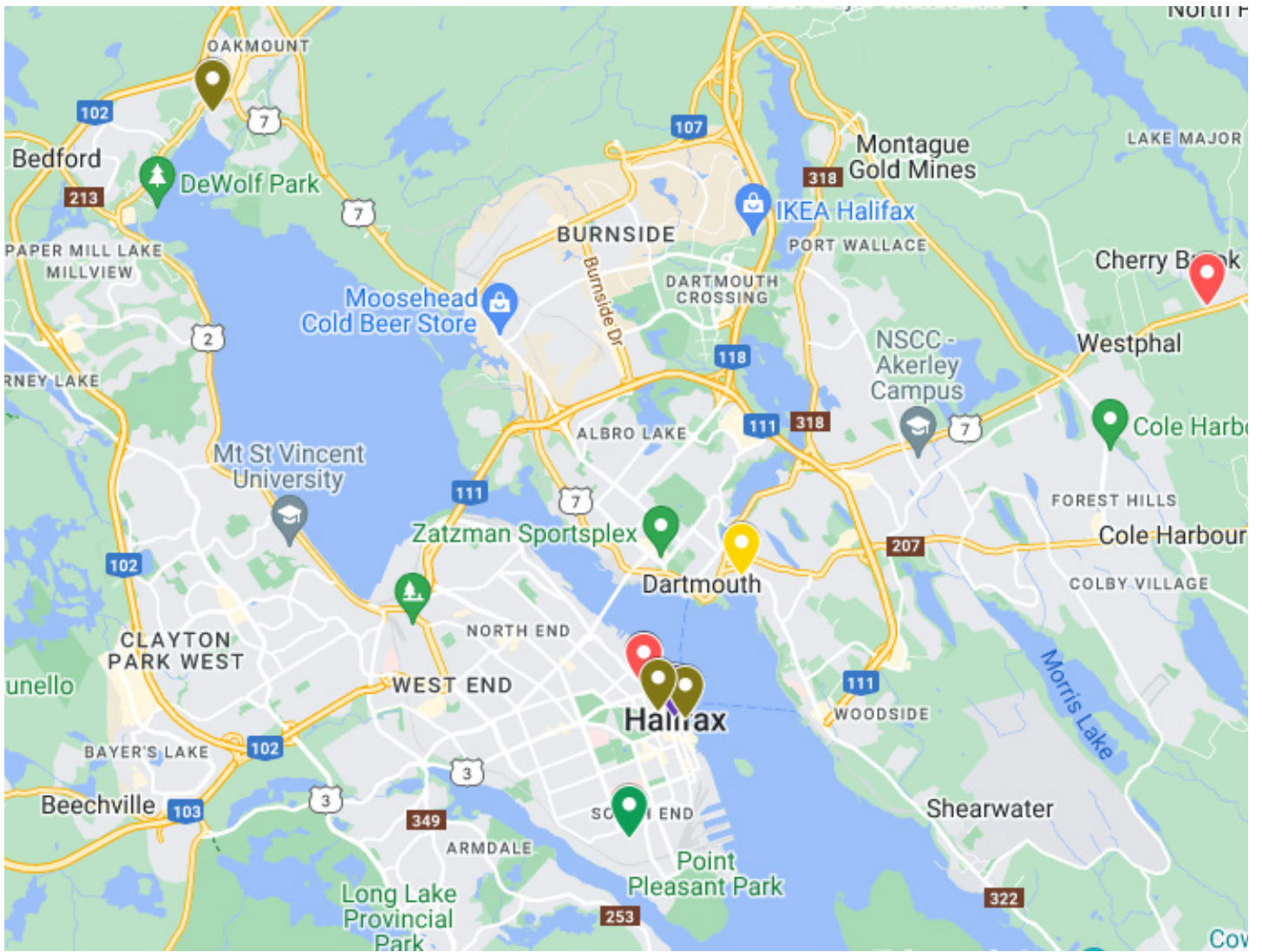
List of Advisory Service Museums (56) 2022-2023

Acadian House Museum	Lordly House Museum
Admiral Digby Museum	Mabou Gaelic & Historical Society
Age of Sail Heritage Centre	MacDonald House Museum
Annapolis Heritage Society	MacPhee House Community Museum
Annapolis Valley Macdonald Museum	Malagash Salt Mines Museum
Antigonish Heritage Museum	McCulloch Genealogy Centre
The Army Museum	Musée des Acadiens des Pubnicos
Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum	Museum of the Hooked Rug (Les Trois Pignons)
Avon River Heritage Society	North Highlands Community Museum
Cape Breton Miners' Museum	Northumberland Fisheries Museum
Cape Sable Historical Society	Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame
Carmichael-Stewart House Museum	Old Court House Museum
Charles Macdonald Concrete House	Orangedale Railway Museum
Chestico Museum & Historical Society	Ottawa House-by-the-sea Museum
Colchester Historem	Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum
Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum	Queens County Museum
Creamery Square Heritage Society	Randall House Museum
Cumberland County Museum	Scott Manor House
Dartmouth Heritage Museum	Shelburne County Museum
Desbrisay Museum	Strait Area Museum
Fort Point Museum	Sydney & Louisbourg Railway Museum
Fultz House Museum	Sydney Museum
Islands Museum	Wallace & Area Museum
James House Museum	Waverley Heritage Museum
Jost House Museum	West Hants Historical Society
Kings County Museum	Whitney Pier Historical Museum
LaHave Islands Marine Museum	Yarmouth County Museum & Archives
LeNoir Forge Museum	
Little White Schoolhouse Museum	

Engagement Map



-  Museum Fundamentals & Decolonizing Collections
-  Unlocking Community Museum Collections
-  Mi'kmaq Community Engagement Day
-  Fleming College Partnership
-  Introduction to Re-org Workshop
-  TRACK Round 1 Pilot Sites
-  Interpretation Canada 2022 Conference



ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

Year Ended March 31, 2023

Contents

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Schedule of Expenses	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7, 8

INDEPENDENT REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of the ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Report on the Financial Statements

I have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS, that comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023 and the statements of operations and surplus and schedule of expenses for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations 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.

Practitioner's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements which require me to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the organization, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS as at March 31, 2023 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting standards for not-for-profit enterprises.

June 5, 2023

Chartered Professional Accountant, CA

***PO Box 44075
Bedford, NS B4A 3X5***

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Balance Sheet

(Unaudited)

March 31, 2023

2023

2022

ASSETS

Current

Cash and term deposits	\$	218,964	\$	125,673
HST recoverable		7,464		3,937
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		4,605		3,299

\$ 231,033 \$ 132,909

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Current liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	5,651	\$	46,141
Deferred revenue (note 5)		108,316		9,519

113,967 55,660

SURPLUS

Unrestricted surplus		66,383		26,566
Restricted surplus (note 6)		50,683		50,683

117,066 77,249

\$ 231,033 \$ 132,909

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Approved by:

Director: _____

Director: _____

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS**Statement of Operations and Surplus***(Unaudited)***For the Year Ended March 31, 2023****2023****2022**

Revenue			
Public funding			
Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage	\$	85,000	\$ 85,000
Lottery		6,250	6,250
MAP training grant		70,500	27,000
Evaluation program		6,000	101,500
SD - website rebuild		-	10,000
SDI - Life cycle toolkit		-	4,050
SDI - strategic plan		4,850	-
Track		100,000	-
CMA conference sponsors		13,000	-
Conference burseries		1,115	-
		286,715	233,800
Earned revenue			
Memberships		19,683	16,782
Fee for service		16,700	16,098
Workshops		14,204	22,447
Other income		6,452	18
Donations and sponsorships		2,259	425
		59,298	55,770
Total revenues		346,013	289,570
Expenses			
Leadership		71,694	77,365
Support services		68,388	70,536
Programs		166,114	127,926
		306,196	275,827
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenue)	\$	39,817	\$ 13,743
Unrestricted surplus, beginning of year	\$	26,566	\$ 12,823
Excess of revenues over expenses		39,817	13,743
Unrestricted surplus, end of year	\$	66,383	\$ 26,566

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Statement of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Cash flow from operating activities		
Cash received from funders and members	\$ 441,283	\$ 292,502
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(347,992)	(235,756)
	93,291	56,746
Cash flow from investing activities	-	-
Cash flow from financing activities	-	-
Net cash provided (used)	93,291	56,746
Cash and cash equivalents		
Beginning of year	125,673	68,927
End of year	\$ 218,964	\$ 125,673

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Cash flow supplemental information

Total revenues	\$ 346,013	\$ 289,570
Accounts receivable - current year	(7,463)	(3,937)
Accounts receivable - prior year	3,936	1,019
Deferred revenue - current year	108,316	9,519
Deferred revenue - prior year	(9,519)	(3,669)
Cash received from funders and members	\$ 441,283	\$ 292,502
Total expenses	\$ 306,196	\$ 275,827
Accounts payable - prior year	46,141	8,683
Accounts payable - current year	(5,651)	(46,141)
Change in prepaids	1,306	(2,613)
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	\$ 347,992	\$ 235,756

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Schedule of Expenses

(Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31, 2023

2023

2022

Leadership

Salaries and benefits	69,687	74,464
Travel and meals	750	981
Board meetings & costs	1,257	1,920
	\$ 71,694	\$ 77,365

Support services

Conference and AGM	304	11,518
Bank charges	1,151	451
Directors and officers insurance	830	794
Memberships and fees	1,566	2,548
Office supplies & expenses	1,141	981
Postage & delivery	586	609
Professional development	2,550	75
Professional fees	9,127	10,532
Salaries and benefits	41,156	38,466
Telephone, fax and internet	5,752	2,742
Website development	111	-
Other admin expenses	4,114	1,820
	\$ 68,388	\$ 70,536

Program expenditures

CMA conference	16,781	2,200
Insurance	1,501	1,362
Workshops & symposiums	8,276	3,275
Advisory services	33,429	18,470
Evaluation program	98,849	85,810
Website rebuild	-	13,102
SDI Lifecycle toolkit	1,838	3,707
Support4Culture project	288	-
Strategic plan	5,152	-
	\$ 166,114	\$ 127,926

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31, 2023

2023

2022

1. Purpose of the organization

The Association of Nova Scotia Museums (the "ANSM") was incorporated under the Nova Scotia Societies Act and its mandate is, working in partnership with museums, communities and supporters, to

- Encourage the development of professional best practices in Nova Scotia's museums
- Educate Nova Scotians about the value of museums and Nova Scotian stories
- Act as a champion on behalf of museums in Nova Scotia

The ANSM is a not for profit organization and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash and cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents consist primarily of term deposits and deposits with a maturity date within one year. Because of the short term nature of these investments, their carrying amount approximated fair market value.

Capital assets

The ANSM has adopted the policy of expensing all capital assets in the year of acquisition. During the current year \$0 (2022 - \$0) of equipment was expensed. The ANSM owns various office furniture, equipment and computer equipment which are not recorded as capital assets.

Revenue recognition

The ANSM follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Contributions relating to future programs are deferred and recognized when the related expenses are incurred.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Calculation of deferred revenues is the most significant item that involves the use of estimates.

3. Financial instruments

ANSM's financial instruments consist of cash, investments, trade receivables and payables. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values. It is managements opinion that the ANSM is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency or credit risks associated with these financial instruments.

ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUMS

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31, 2023

2023

2022

4. Economic dependence

The ANSM is dependent on funds received from the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for continuation of its operations.

5. Deferred revenue

The following contributions were received in the current fiscal year which relate to programs and activities continuing into the next fiscal year;

MuseFund endowment	\$	2,554	\$	3,669
Conference sponsorship		97,911		4,000
SDI - Life cycle toolkit		1,850		1,850
	\$	<u>102,315</u>	\$	<u>9,519</u>

6. Restricted surplus

Subject to Board approval, the ANSM allocates unrestricted surplus for future committed projects. As at March 31, 2023, the Board has committed funds to the following:

NovaMuse / Collective Access disaster recovery fund	\$	8,834	\$	8,834
Advisory Service Supplementary Fund		1,849		1,849
Reserve for Operational Funding		40,000		40,000
	\$	<u>50,683</u>	\$	<u>50,683</u>

The Association has capped the reserve for operational funding at \$40,000, the purpose of which is to allow for an orderly windup of the operations of the Association in the event current ongoing funding is cut or discontinued.

7. Related party transactions

The Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia ("CFNS") provides premises to the ANSM on a rent free basis, subject to a charge for any operating deficit of the CFNS. In addition, the ANSM purchases certain shared services from the CFNS on a cost recovery basis.