



ONTARIO MUSEUM
ASSOCIATION
MUSÉES DE L'ONTARIO

NOVOTEL
HOTELS, SUITES & RESORTS

TOWARDS THE FUTURE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

ONTARIO MUSEUM ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO – NOVEMBER 2-4, 2016

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



PEEL
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ARCHIVES

Exploring The Themes:

Vibrant & Vital Museums
Relevant & Meaningful Collections
Strong & Successful Sector
Effective & Collaborative Workforce

#OMACONF2016



Towards the Future

This year's theme ***Towards the Future: Diversity and Inclusion*** will *look ahead* to a successful future - one in which Ontario's museums have achieved their full potential as organizations that enrich people's lives and help build vibrant and engaged communities.

Museums in the future must be more than responsive. Museums need greater quality and depth of two-way engagement with people — our visitors, stakeholders and communities — when considering the types of experiences we provide. Our sector will work towards a future where museums have achieved success by fully embracing the reciprocal nature of these relationships.

Exploring the following themes:

Vibrant & Vital Museums

Museums that are relevant to contemporary society in Ontario

- Engaging your community
- Providing opportunities for lifelong learning

Relevant & Meaningful Collections

Museums that care for and develop collections for the public benefit

- Enhancing public access to collections
- Interpretation of collections to enable people to connect personally

Strong & Successful Sector

Museums that contribute to growing our local, provincial, and national economies

- Creative collaboration and partnerships within the cultural sector and other sectors
- Sustainable museum operations and management

Effective & Collaborative Workforce

Museums that demonstrate the impact of their work on Ontario

- Communicating value to communities and province
- Professionalized/Specialized workforce



About the Conference

Accommodations:

The OMA has negotiated a special rate for delegates and exhibitors at **Novotel Mississauga**, where the EXPO and all Conference sessions will take place. The OMA was happy to offer Standard rooms for the discounted rate of \$119.00 + applicable taxes.

[Novotel Mississauga](#)

3670 Hurontario Street.
Mississauga, ON,
L5B 1P3



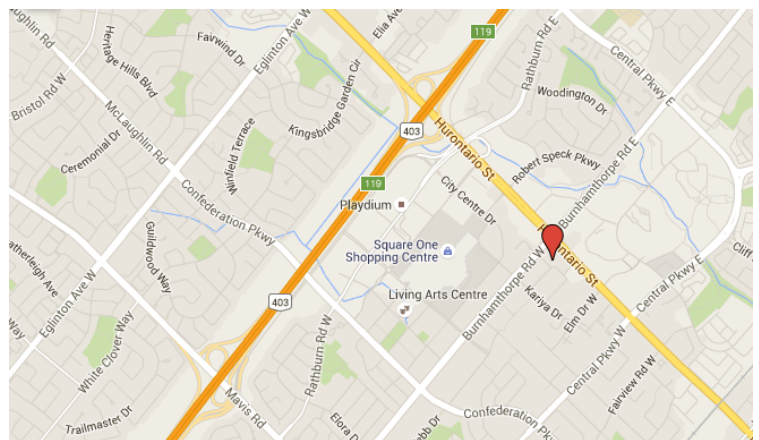
Directions:

*Please consult [Google Maps](#), [MapQuest](#) or GPS for directions and traffic conditions before leaving.

Drive: 40 minutes from Toronto, Gardiner Expy W to QEW, take exit 132, go North on Hurontario Street.

GO Transit: Train and bus service to Mississauga available from Toronto Union Station. Journey costs approximately \$7.00.

Toronto Pearson Airport (YYZ): 16 kilometres from Novotel Mississauga. Taxis cost approximately \$30. Click [here](#) for more GO Transit Schedules and Maps



CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Annemarie Hagan, Curator and Supervisor of Museum Services,
Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives

Marty Brent, Manager, Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives

Karen Carter, Executive Director, Myseum of Toronto

Madeline Smolarz, Museum Assistant, Craigleith Heritage Depot

John Summers, Manager, Heritage Services and Curator,
Halton Region Museum

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Marty Brent, Manager, Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives

Lindsay Doren, Lead Museum Interpreter, Museums of Mississauga

Merri Fergusson, Museums Education Program Supervisor,
Museums of Mississauga

Stuart Keeler, Chief Curator, Manager, Museums of Mississauga

Julian Kingston, Supervisor — Museum, Recreation and Culture,
Town of Oakville

Josie Premzell, Supervisor of Development and Visitor Services—
Donations, Sponsorships, PAMA

Mandy Salter, Director/Curator, Art Gallery of Mississauga

Connect with Us

Connect with the OMA, Conference Delegates and Speakers

Join the conversation early by using the hashtag:

#OMAConf2016

Follow the OMA: @museumsontario



Emerging Museum Professionals

Activities organized by the Group of Ontario Emerging Museum Professionals in coordination with the OMA!

Conference Connections

#GOEMP

[Conference Connections](#) is back at OMA Conference 2016 for the third year!

This successful mentorship matching program will introduce you to a fellow conference-goer to meet during the Conference. From there, the connection is what you make of it!

Pop-Up Talks

Join us for short, intimate, informal talks with museum professionals in the Paris Ballroom during conference lunch periods (Starting at 12:20pm). Just grab some food, have a seat, and listen to specialists talk about their careers and passions as they answer questions crowdsourced from YOU.

Thursday: *Never Mind the Resume: Do's and Don'ts for Surviving Your First Museum Job Interview*
With John Summers, Manager, Heritage Services and Curator, Halton Region

Friday: *Museum Work in Non-Museum Settings: Broadening the Search*
With Jennie Fiddes, Exhibits and Programs Officer, Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Trivia Night

Back by popular demand! Come join this informal pub and trivia night hosted by the Emerging Museum Professionals. But watch out... this event is **open to everyone!** Those who have been in the museum field longer might have the advantage here, so start brushing up on your heritage trivia now!

When: Thursday, November 3, 9:00 pm—12:00 am

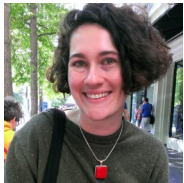
Where: Paris Ballroom

Plenary Speakers

THE INCLUSEUM: A. WITTMAN & P. MOORE (THUR. NOV. 3, 2016)



The Inclusion advances new ways of being a museum through critical discourse, community building and collaborative practice related to inclusion in museums. The Inclusion is a space to build community around issues of inclusion and justice in museums, a resource for current research and practice related to inclusion, a platform for critical dialogue that advances the ways in which we understand, talk about, and enact inclusion in museums, and a project that weaves digital and offline engagements to catalyze 'next practices'.



Aletheia Wittman cofounded and coordinates The Inclusion. Through The Inclusion, she acts as a facilitator and strategist at the intersection of institutions, policy, research and organizing efforts with the goal to ensure a future where all arts and cultural spaces are grounded in justice and equity. The Inclusion has also informed her practice and philosophies as a public programmer and exhibit curator at the Seattle Architecture Foundation (SAF).



Porchia Moore is an ABD (All But Dissertation) PhD candidate at the University of South Carolina in the School of Library and Information Science and the McKissick Museum Management program. She serves on the Professional Development Committee for the South Carolina Federation of Museums, and is a Board Member for the Friends of African American Art Committee at the Columbia Museum of Art. Porchia is currently a graduate teaching assistant in the School of Library and Information Science and works as a museum consultant at the Columbia Museum of Art and Historic Columbia Foundation where she trains incoming docents on cultural competency. She is also cocreator of the Visitors of Color project.

RABIA KHEDR (THUR. NOV. 3, 2016)



Rabia Khedr runs diversityworX, a private consultancy company, which helps organizations promote diversity in their work environment. In October 2005, she wrote a white paper investigating, among other things, the impact of ethno-cultural and faith backgrounds on the lives of mothers with disabilities. Through diversityworX, which she runs out of her home, she has consulted for the Canadian Association for Community Living and Providence Health Care. She sits on the board of the Ontario Women's Health Network and is a member of the City of Mississauga Accessibility Advisory Committee. Rabia is devoted to building inclusive communities. She knows it is a goal she can accomplish in Canada, where she has already had success fighting systemic biases against people with disabilities.

FRANKLIN VAGNONE (FRI. NOV. 4, 2016)





Franklin Vagnone (Principal – [TWISTED PRESERVATION](#): Cultural Consulting, New York City), has a strong background in the creative arts (Architecture, Design, Sculpture), is a Public Historian and “domestic-archeo-anthropologist.” An international thought leader in innovative and entrepreneurial non-profit management, he has a thoughtful combination of philosophical and practical experiences that have allowed him to consult, lecture, and teach internationally for an extensive list of universities, cultural sites, museums, and community-based membership organizations.

As well as maintaining the blog, **Twisted Preservation**, and the series “[One Night Stand](#),” and moderating an international discussion group – *The Anarchist's Guide to Historic House Museums*, Franklin has co-authored *The Anarchist's Guide to Historic House Museums* (with Ms. Deborah Ryan), a book about innovative concepts for historic cultural sites. The book, in its 3rd printing since November 2015, was voted best Museum Education-related book of 2015 by *Museum Educator's Monitor*.

Schedule at a Glance

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2		
9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Study Tour: Diversity Matters Tour	Managing Change: Historic House Museum Workshop
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Opening Reception @ PAMA	
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 3		
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	EXPO	
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Opening + <i>The Inluseum</i> Keynote & Workshop	PARIS BALLROOM
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Networking Break with Exhibitors	
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">Addressing Diversity and Inclusion (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>)FOMO-vs-FOOI: Community Museums and Open Data - 11:00a-11:30p (<i>Amsterdam A</i>)Navigating Open Waters: Online Collections and Linked Open Data - 11:30a-12:00p (<i>Amsterdam A</i>)Reconciling Heritage: Knowledge Sharing and Inclusive Practices in Indigenous Collections (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)	
Dance Break! Museum Dance Off Video		
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Exhibitors	
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Ignite Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">Picture ImperfectNew Heights at the Great War Flying MuseumShared Authority and Inclusive StorytellingCome See the Real ThingWhat Can Museums Learn from Agencies Serving Immigrants?	PARIS BALLROOM 
1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Journey Towards Equitable Education: A Museum's Role (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>)Honouring Through Ceremony: Walking With Our Sisters at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery (<i>Amsterdam A</i>)Queering History: Including Queer Content at Your Museum (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)	
2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Networking Break with Exhibitors	
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Rabia Khedr, Keynote Towards an Inclusive Society: Intersections of Race, Culture and Disability	PARIS BALLROOM
3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engaging Audiences: The New Canadian History Hall at the Canadian Museum of History (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>)Drawing People to the Forks: Opportunities and Challenges (<i>Amsterdam A</i>)ROM Welcomes Inviting Canadian Newcomers to the ROM (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)	
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	President's Reception with Exhibitors <i>Thank You!</i>	 MUSEUM AND FINE ARTS SERVICES INC. <small>A MEMBER OF THE TOTAL TRANSPORTATION GROUP OF COMPANIES</small>
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Awards of Excellence Reception <i>Thank You!</i>	 CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY MUSÉE CANADIEN DE L'HISTOIRE  CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM MUSÉE CANADIEN DE LA GUERRE
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.	Trivia Night	PARIS BALLROOM

Schedule at a Glance

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4	
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Conference Registration
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	EXPO
8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	AGM PARIS BALLROOM
9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Ontario's Museums 2025: A Strategic Plan for our Future PARIS BALLROOM
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Frank Vagnone of <i>Twisted Preservation</i> PARIS BALLROOM
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Networking Break with Exhibitors
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leveraging the Magic of Mentors - 11:00a-11:30a (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>) Relevant & Meaningful Collections: Change Makers Past, Present, Future - 11:30a-12:00p Discovering Kaná:ta - 11:00a-11:30a (<i>Amsterdam A</i>) Mobilizing a Community Museum: First World War Comes to Life Travelling Exhibition Case Study - 11:30a-12:00p (<i>Amsterdam A</i>) Museum Intercultural Education Program (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)
Dance Break! Museum Dance Off Video	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Exhibitors Thank You! 
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous Collections: Who Cares? (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>) Maximizing Millennials in Ontario's Museums (<i>Amsterdam A</i>) In a Manner of Speaking: Why Language Matters in Museums (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)
1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Ice Cream Break with Exhibitors Thank You! 
2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animating Historic Sites & Museums: Creating Innovative Programming in Evocative Historic Spaces (<i>Paris Ballroom</i>) Who Writes the Story of Mississauga? (<i>Amsterdam A</i>) Access to Art Programming @ the AGO (<i>Amsterdam B&C</i>)
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Closing of Conference PARIS BALLROOM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of Conference 2017 EXPO Passport Draw & 2017 Conference Registration Draw

**Program is subject to change - visit members.museumsonario.ca/programs-events/conference for regular updates.

Thursday November 3–Concurrent Sessions

11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION – 60 minutes

PARIS BALLROOM

Presenters: Karen Carter (Executive Director, Myseum of Toronto), Cathy Gallagher-Louisy (Director, Knowledge Services, Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion), Cheryl Blackman (Assistant Vice-President, Audience Development, Royal Ontario Museum), Mark Campbell (Adjunct Professor & Senior Research Associate, Ryerson University), Moderator : Christian Blake (Editor, AccessTO)

Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) practices are important in today's workplaces and in museums in particular. The panelists will share their unique insights and experiences of how D&I has evolved in their organizations. To make this panel discussion engaging and interactive, we'll be using an innovative audience response system (ARS) that will allow us to poll all participants on the key questions that will be addressed by the panel in real time.

RECONCILING HERITAGE: Knowledge Sharing and Inclusive Practices in Indigenous Collections - 60 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenters: Emily Meikle (Recent Master of Museum Studies Graduate, University of Toronto), Heather George (Indigenous Research Office of Vice-President Research, McMaster University), Tanis Hill (Assistant Project Coordinator, Deyohahá:ge: Indigenous Knowledge Centre at Six Nations Polytechnic), Cara Krmpotich (Associate Museum Studies Professor, University of Toronto)

Museum and Indigenous relations have been central to Canadian museology in recent decades. In 2015, Canadian museums and archives were named by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission as places where education - and ultimately reconciliation - can happen. A fundamental role of museums is to act as repositories of knowledge and stories, building visitors' passion and pride in their culture and heritage. Drawing upon case studies, experience, and scholarship, this panel will examine how museums and cultural centres can promote knowledge sharing both within indigenous communities and between cultures, exploring themes of reconciliation, accessibility, community building, interpretation, and collaboration.

FOMO-VS-FOOI: Community Museums and Open Data - 30 minutes (11:00a-11:30a)

AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Kathleen Powell (Supervisor of Historical Services/Curator, St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre), Robin McPherson (Communications Strategist), Trevor Twining (President, Cowork Niagara Co-operative Inc.)

How can community museums harness the power of the open data movement to provide increased access, gain depth of information related to collections, and engage the community in knowledge building? Using the St. Catharines Museum's WWI mapping project as a case study, this panel will explore the conflict between the Fear of Missing Out and the Fear Of Opting In when it comes to open data and digital projects.

NAVIGATING OPEN WATERS: Online Collections and Linked Open Data - 30 minutes (11:30a-12:00p)

AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Charlie Costain (Director, Canadian Heritage Information Network), Liana Radvak (Manager, Collections Information & Image Resources, Art Gallery of Ontario)

The world of online museum collections is rich and growing all the time. While there have been efforts to bring collections information together, new approaches are providing new ways to connect rich resources online. What resources are available to your organization, and how can you use online collections to grow your reach as a museum? This session explores the potential of new kinds of digital resource sharing, including the world of Linked Open Data (LOD). The session will also provide an overview of the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) LOD demonstration project and discuss plans for modernizing Artefacts Canada.

Thursday November 3– Ignite Sessions

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

5 minutes each

PARIS BALLROOM



PICTURE IMPERFECT: Tips and Tricks for Using Historic Images when Looking for Artifacts

Presenter: Sean Stoughton (Village Coordinator, Waterloo Region Museum)

Often in our museums we need to research small details about objects in order to determine function, assess the accuracy of replicas, or for general information about a place or event. When historic photographs are available as reference, they can be an enormous asset. However, using historic photographs as research material comes with its own set of problems which can lead to confusion and misinterpretation. This talk will offer some basic hints and tips for finding the details you need from historic photographs, as well as some of the pitfalls and limitations of using photos as research material.

NEW HEIGHTS AT THE GREAT WAR FLYING MUSEUM—Presenter: Nat McHaffie (Curator, Great War Flying Museum)

The Great War Flying Museum, operated by the Ontario Aviation Historical Society, is a non-for-profit volunteer organization that guides visitors on a journey of discovery through various galleries and displays showing all aspects of military air life during the First World War. From flags and uniforms to models and fragments, machine guns, lovingly embroidered mementos from wives and sweethearts, a diorama of a Zeppelin raid over England and a trench warfare display featuring land-fighting vehicles of the time, the impressive collection is a moving tribute to the pilots who served with gallantry and distinction during the Great War and the early pioneers of military aviation. Join curator Nat McHaffie for an engaging introduction to this unique museum and its offerings.

SHARED AUTHORITY AND INCLUSIVE STORYTELLING:

A Grassroots, Community-Led Effort to Build Toronto's First Museum of Migration

Presenters: Arlene Chan (Tour Guide, Toronto Ward Museum), Anja Hamilton (Programming Coordinator, Toronto Ward Museum)

Shared authority and inclusive storytelling are guiding principles of the Ward Museum, a museum without walls dedicated to telling stories of migration to Toronto. Since its inception, the Museum has been supported by a network of institutional partners from four different sectors, working to give local residents the opportunity to co-develop and co-deliver the museum's programming. This presentation will speak to the ethical necessity and importance of sharing authority within museums, as well as exploring the experience of Arlene Chan, one of the guides and storytellers on the Museum's *Dishing Up Toronto* tours.

COME SEE THE REAL THING: Film-Based Programming in Historic House Museums

Presenter: Emma Tennier-Stuart (Master's Student, Folklore Department, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Historical dramas on television and in film have always been popular, and recently Canada has been experiencing a boom in its own production of historical television. With museums always looking to reach wider audiences, and develop engaging, experiential programming, film-based programming is an excellent way to create an accessible museum experience for a ready-made audience. However, trying to tie in museum programming with television and film is an imperfect art. Based on field work carried out for her Folklore Master's degree, Emma will outline a basic Do and Don't list for creating film-based programming applicable to the museums here in Ontario.

WHAT CAN MUSEUMS LEARN FROM AGENCIES SERVING IMMIGRANTS? And what can they offer to newcomer audiences?—Presenter: Marta Keller-Hernandez (Administrator, Sur Gallery; Programming Coordinator, Paralia Newcomer Arts Network)

Agencies Serving Immigrants are the first place to go for over 95,000 newcomers moving to Ontario every year from a country other than Canada. Based on the presenter's experience when using these agencies' services, this session aims to explore some key aspects that make ASI's services and programming a successful way to attract and engage newcomers.

How can these practices be implemented in the museum sector? What can museums offer when trying to build long-lasting relationships with newcomers? The presentation will provide some ideas and thoughts around potential programming opportunities for museums to attract, engage, and retain newcomer audiences.

Thursday November 3–Concurrent Sessions

1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

HONOURING THROUGH CEREMONY: *Walking With Our Sisters at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery* – 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM A

Presenter: Nadia Kurd (Curator, Thunder Bay Art Gallery)

In this presentation, I will examine *Walking With Our Sisters*, a commemoration that focused on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women which came to Thunder Bay in 2014. Consisting of 1800+ handmade moccasin vamps laid upon fabric pathways, participants were invited to walk through and observe the emotional stories related to the unfinished lives of Indigenous women along the way. The project presented a fundamental rethinking of participatory practices within galleries but also brought an understanding of audience participation drawn from Indigenous frameworks.

QUEERING HISTORY: *Including Queer Content at Your Museum* - 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenters: Nathan Etherington (Program Coordinator, Brant Museum and Archives), Jade Pichette (Volunteer and Community Outreach Coordinator, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives), Jim Parrott (President of the Board, SPECTRUM—Waterloo Region's Rainbow Community Space)

Diversity and inclusion of queer culture in exhibits and programming can often be problematic, if you don't know where to look. This talk will primarily focus on the sub-themes of Relevant and Meaningful Collections and Effective & Collaborative Workforce and offer solutions to attendees about including queer content at their museum. Participating organizations will explain how they came by their queer collections and broke them out of the closet. By the end of this session you should be more knowledgeable on finding existing queer histories in your collection and have collaborative connections with museum professionals who actively share their content.

**THE JOURNEY TOWARDS EQUITABLE EDUCATION:
A Museum's Role - 45 minutes**


PARIS BALLROOM

Presenters: Jan Emonson (Curator, York Region District School Board Museum & Archives), Christina Blake (Education Programmer, York Region District School Board Museum & Archives)

York Region is one of the most diverse communities in the country and as a school board museum and archives we have students from across the region coming to our site to take part in our programs.

How have we responded to the cultural landscape of our audience? Using our updated in-house programs and our board wide WWI Arts Inquiry Project we will provide the audience with an interactive look into how we have embraced the diversity of York Region through our programming.

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Thursday November 3–Concurrent Sessions

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ROM WELCOMES / *Inviting Canadian Newcomers to the ROM* – 30 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenters: Jaclyn Qua-Hansen (Audience Coordinator, Royal Ontario Museum), Yasmine Mohamed (Manager, Cultural Access Pass, Institute for Canadian Citizenship), Lisa Randall (Program Manager, Settlement Workers in Schools)

The Royal Ontario Museum's ROM Welcomes is a multi-year initiative to engage newcomers to Canada with the cultural sector. In collaboration with ROM Community Access Network (ROMCAN) partners Institute for Canadian Citizenship and Culture Link, the ROM launches this program with Syrian newcomer families in 2016, with the aim to expand to more newcomer communities in the future.

Co-developed with ROMCAN partners with expertise in welcoming newcomers, ROM Welcomes provides free guided visits to the Museum and a unique opportunity to learn about the art, culture and nature of Canada through objects and specimens found in the ROM's world class collections.

DRAWING PEOPLE TO THE FORKS: *Opportunities and Challenges* - 30 minutes

AMSTERDAM A

Presenter: Amber Lloydlangston (Curator of Regional History, Museum London)

After exploring the history of the museum prior to my assumption of the position of Curator of Regional History, I will outline my own efforts to reach out to the community in order to create exhibitions which reflect the diversity of London and the region. Finally, I will discuss an exhibition currently planned for 2019 entitled "Difficult Terrain." This exhibition will feature and discuss racist, sexist and homophobic artifacts in the collection. I will discuss the way in which this exhibition will be developed and the hopes I have that it will generate dialogue in the community.

ENGAGING AUDIENCES: *The New Canadian History Hall at the Canadian Museum of History* - 30 minutes

PARIS BALLROOM

Presenter: Glenn Ogden (Creative Development Specialist, Canadian Museum of History)

How do we engage audiences to create 21st century museum experiences? How can we plan for and balance audience needs with those of stakeholders and communities? This session will take you through how the Canadian Museum of History grappled with these questions to craft its new signature exhibition, the Canadian History Hall. This case study will focus on the value of audience development and public engagement as a vital activity for all institutions. It will explore how this process unfolded for a major project, and how it shaped messaging, guiding principles, storytelling, content selection, design, accessibility and interpretive approaches.

Friday November 4–Concurrent Sessions

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

LEVERAGING THE MAGIC OF MENTORS - 30 minutes (11:00a-11:30a)

PARIS BALLROOM

Presenter: Kate Butler (Museum Director, Haliburton Highlands Museum)

Visitors to the Haliburton Highlands Museum have long been telling staff that there were many traditional skills they wished they had learned from parents and grandparents. In this session, you'll learn about the innovative mentorship program we implemented to address this need, partnering seniors and children in our community. Kate Butler will share the lessons we learned along the way and the adventures we had (including babysitting bees and emergency crafting lessons), as well as how this sort of rewarding program can be adapted to a museum of any size, including yours!

RELEVANT & MEANINGFUL COLLECTIONS: *Change Makers Past, Present, Future* - 30 minutes (11:30a-12:00p)

PARIS BALLROOM

Presenters: Mandy Salter (Director/Curator, Art Gallery Mississauga), Rhéanne Chartrand (Aboriginal Curatorial Resident, McMaster Museum of Art)

In 2017 Canada will celebrate its Sesquicentennial Anniversary of Confederation. A time to honour Canadian nation builders and change makers, many anticipate a year that will celebrate and strengthen the diversity of our country. Only twenty four years ago another anniversary was celebrated: the quincentennial of the arrival of Christopher Columbus. The year of 1992 celebrated the discovery of this continent, but would also be the beginning of change in Canadian museums and galleries. At this time the National Gallery purchased its first work by an Indigenous Canadian artist; Carl Beam's *The North American Iceberg*. Carl's work would be at the forefront of *Land, Spirit, Power*, the first Indigenous exhibition at the National Gallery. The Art Gallery of Mississauga is a young gallery, housed in the diverse and ever-growing Peel community, but nevertheless houses a Permanent Collection of noteworthy works from some of the most significant artists in Canadian Art History. Among these notable Canadian artists are works by several Indigenous artists including Norval Morrisseau, Carl Beam, Rita Letendre, and Robert Houle. Their work tells stories that span histories far beyond one hundred and fifty years. However, their history of recognition and acceptance within arts and cultural institutions is a recent one.

Anniversaries offer moments for us to be introspective. What does it mean to house work by survivors of the Residential School System, or work by the first Indigenous artist to have a retrospective at the National Gallery? Furthermore what can their stories tell us about Canada, about ourselves?

MUSEUM INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM - 60 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenters (Recent graduates of the Master of Museum Studies program, University of Toronto): Madeline Smolarz (Museum Assistant, Craighleath Heritage Depot), Michelle Johnson (Researcher, Aurora Museum & Archives, and Exhibition Coordinator, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame), Emily Meikle, Leah Moncada (Founder, Historic Kitchen Web-blog), Lindsay Parsons, Bethea Penny

Due to increasing globalization, the ability to effectively navigate cultural differences has become a global critical issue that deserves attention across all disciplines. Drawing upon a program developed by University of Toronto MMSt students in Fall 2015, this workshop will simulate an experiential intercultural outing to the Royal Ontario Museum. Attendees will be introduced to the development of the ROM outing, learn effective cross-cultural communication techniques, participate in modified activities from the outing, and be shown the results of the program. The workshop will then be followed by a Q & A session with the MMSt team.

Friday November 4–Concurrent Sessions

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., continued

DISCOVERING KANÁ:TA - 30 minutes (11:00-11:30)

AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Christine Girardi (Assistant Curator, City of Niagara Falls Museums), Heather George (Indigenous Research Office of Vice-President Research, McMaster University)

In an effort to provide First Nations content, as requested by local educators, the Niagara Falls History Museum and Chiefswood National Historic Site created a half-day educational program featuring the history, culture and art of the Haudenosaunee (Six Nations of the Grand River). This two-year project involved 10 First Nation artisans, 5 museum professionals, 384 local students and 7 Niagara region schools. The end result was an outreach program created and delivered exclusively by First Nation individuals and a model for future collaborative efforts between museums and First Nation communities. In this session, explore the challenges and successes of the project, and consider recommendations for museums wishing to collaborate with First Nation communities.

MOBILIZING A COMMUNITY MUSEUM: First World War Comes to Life Travelling Exhibition Case Study - 30 minutes (11:30a-12:00p) AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Lyndsey Friesen (Exhibition Project Manager, Victoria County Historical Society), Ashley Creed (Exhibition Project Manager, Victoria County Historical Society)

The Victoria County Historical Society has embarked on an ambitious four-year commemorative project, entitled “First World War Comes to Life.” Best described as a “living history travelling event”, First World War Comes to Life seeks to break down barriers and challenge existing ideas of what an exhibit could be, as well as what a small town community museum is capable of with a little bit of vision and creativity. This session explores how this unique project worked to navigate the challenges inherent in interpreting Canada’s past in a way that is meaningful to and inclusive of an increasingly diverse population.



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Friday November 4–Concurrent Sessions

1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

MAXIMIZING MILLENNIALS IN ONTARIO'S MUSEUMS - 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Laura Gibbs (Museum Coordinator, Gibson House Museum), Braden Murray (Curator/Educator, Lake of the Woods Museum), Pailagi Pandya (Program Officer, Scarborough Museum)

They are known as millennials or GenY, GenNext, Facebookers, and Screengazers. Born between 1980 and 2000, they will comprise the largest proportion of the workforce after the baby-boomers. This is the generation that will need to fill leadership gaps as baby-boomers retire. By all accounts, millennials view the world differently than preceding generations, redefining the meaning of success, with different priorities and world-views than older generations. With museum leaders trying to understand how to harness this generation's strengths, this presentation is about understanding the millennial generation and what motivates them in order to attract, retain and mentor millennials in our Ontario museums.

INDIGENOUS COLLECTIONS: Who Cares? - 45 minutes

PARIS BALLROOM

Presenters: Janis Monture and Paula Whitlow (Woodland Cultural Centre), Petal Furness (Grey Roots Museum & Archives), Cara Krmpotich (University of Toronto), Heather George (McMaster University), Tanis Hill (Six Nations Polytechnic), Mary Collier (OMA)

We do and we want you to as well. Join members of the Indigenous Collections Symposium Working Group for a panel of perspectives on why we care about Indigenous collections in Ontario's museums and what is at stake if the status quo persists. In the months leading up to the Indigenous Collections Symposium in March 2017, let's talk about what issues need our attention and what action we as museums, small and large, can take.

IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING: Why Language Matters in Museums - 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenters: Lindsay Marlies Small (PhD Student, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto), Mary Kate Whibbs (Aqua-Links Coordinator, Toronto Zoo)

This session features current research on the effect of inclusive and exclusive language in museum practice. Lindsay's exploration of gendered language use on text panels highlights an exclusionary practice common to aviation and space museums and seeks to investigate alternative language use. Mary Kate examines language used in zoo and aquarium interpretation. Fear-based terminology and descriptive terms focused on physical traits represent out-dated interpretive practices and present barriers to visitor learning. These two case studies explore how different communication styles can use problematic language which may alter a visitor's understanding or sense of inclusion.

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Friday November 4–Concurrent Sessions

2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

WHO WRITES THE STORY OF MISSISSAUGA? - 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM A

Presenters: Stuart Keeler (Chief Curator, Manager, Museums of Mississauga), Bonnie Devine (Founding Chair, OCAD U's Indigenous Visual Culture Program), Camille Turner (Artist-in-Residence, Museums Mississauga)

Historical narratives have a long tradition in visual art, literature, performance and film. Sharing these stories stirs the imaginations of both the author and the audience, and, in the best examples, the works hold to the rigor of historical accuracy and the imagination. Sadly, many of the stories of the 905 Peel Region have been forgotten, eclipsed or not included in the story of Mississauga. The Museums of Mississauga Artist in Residence project seeks to challenge the norm of the industry amnesia and open a dialogue on the past and the power of shared history with an Artist in Residence project. The artists are Camille Turner, researching to disrupt the staging of Canadian history in heritage museums and historical sites by evoking the memory of enslaved Africans in Canada's past, and Bonnie Devine, conducting a three-part investigation into the history of the north shores of Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario, which includes the territories of the Mississauga, the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), and the Huron Wendat Nations. The intention is to illuminate a set of historical events that are now largely forgotten or ignored in most historical narratives of Ontario. The hope is that the project will build reconciliation through understanding among the various cultural communities now sharing this region.

ANIMATING HISTORIC SITES & MUSEUMS: Creating Innovative Programming in Evocative Historic Spaces - 45 minutes **PARIS BALLROOM**

Presenters: Linda Irwin (Manager, Museums, City of Toronto Museums & Heritage Services), Claire Hopkinson (Director & CEO, Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation), Penelope Stewart (Artist), Allen Kaeja (Co-Artistic Director, Kaeja d'Dance)

The Toronto Arts Council and City of Toronto Museums started a partnership in 2013 entitled "Animating Historic Sites & Museums" to create an innovative and creative opportunity for artists to animate historic sites outside the downtown core. The project has served as a catalyst for people to see and think about historic places in a new way – to provide alternatives to traditional methods of historic understanding and interpretation. The program positions historic site museums as vital public spaces of social interaction – where the past provides creative context for future-looking interpretation. Entering its 4th year, this project offers funding to artists to create and present new work inspired by and presented in the historic spaces. A range of innovative projects have been presented to date including dance, theatre and exhibitions. A panel of representatives from the TAC, the museums and artists will discuss the inspiration and some feedback on this program concept. Discussion will provide inspiration and suggestions for museum and cultural professionals to consider developing similar programming at their own museums.

ACCESS TO ART PROGRAMMING @ THE AGO - 45 minutes

AMSTERDAM B&C

Presenter: Melissa Smith, Gallery Guide and Adult Education Coordinator, Art Gallery of Ontario

Creative engagement with art is proven to support emotional well-being; reinforces the brain cells responsible for memory; cultivates a positive approach to life that enhances the immune system, and promotes social interactions that help combat depression. The AGO supports a range of visitors through the Access to Art programs and workshops. Melissa Smith, Gallery Guide and Adult Education Coordinator at the Art Gallery of Ontario will talk about different access and multi-sensory programs museums can provide and how partnerships can create many opportunities – all while staying within a tight budget.

Special Events + Sessions

Opening Reception, PAMA

Peel Art Gallery Museum + Archives, Wednesday, November 2, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



We have partnered with the Peel Art Gallery, Museum + Archives this year, who will be hosting our opening reception. Shuttle buses will be available between Novotel Mississauga and PAMA throughout the evening. Please look for signs in the Novotel lobby for bus times.

President's Reception with Exhibitors

Expo Hall & Lobby, Thursday, November 3, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Conference delegates are invited to join the Exhibitors for the President's Reception before the Awards Reception. This is the time to reach out, meet new people and network with exhibitors and museum professionals!

Cash bar available

Awards of Excellence Reception

Paris Ballroom, Thursday, November 3, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



Join us as we celebrate this year's OMA Awards of Excellence recipients. The OMA Awards of Excellence are designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the Ontario museum community, with emphasis on innovation; advance the museum profession in Ontario; and encourage high standards of excellence in the museum field.

Dinner included, **ticket required** – included in a Full Conference registration

Notice of 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Paris Ballroom, Friday, November 4, 8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

The Ontario Museum Association (OMA) will hold its 2016 Annual General Meeting at Novotel Mississauga, 3670 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, ON, L5B 1P3. Please contact the OMA for more information about voting privileges or the AGM.

Ontario's Museums 2025: A Strategic Plan for our Future

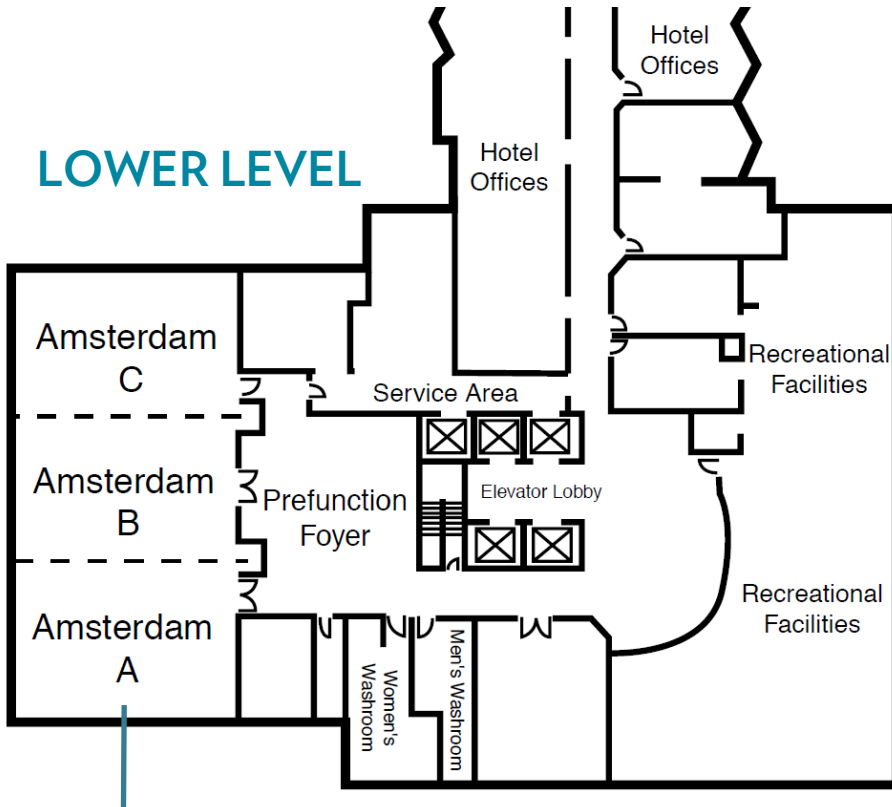
Paris Ballroom: Friday, November 4, 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Ontario's Museums 2025: Strategic Vision & Action Plan was launched by the OMA on May 16, 2016. The OMA is using this document to inform the direction its own strategic plan for 2015-2020. Ontario's Museums 2025 is intended to be used in this way -- to help individual museums with their own future planning and operations. The vision and the action items should be considered when developing institutional strategic and business plans. This plenary workshop delivered by OMA staff and Council members will demonstrate the process -- using the OMA's own recent strategic planning process as an example.

Silent Auction

Ongoing throughout Conference

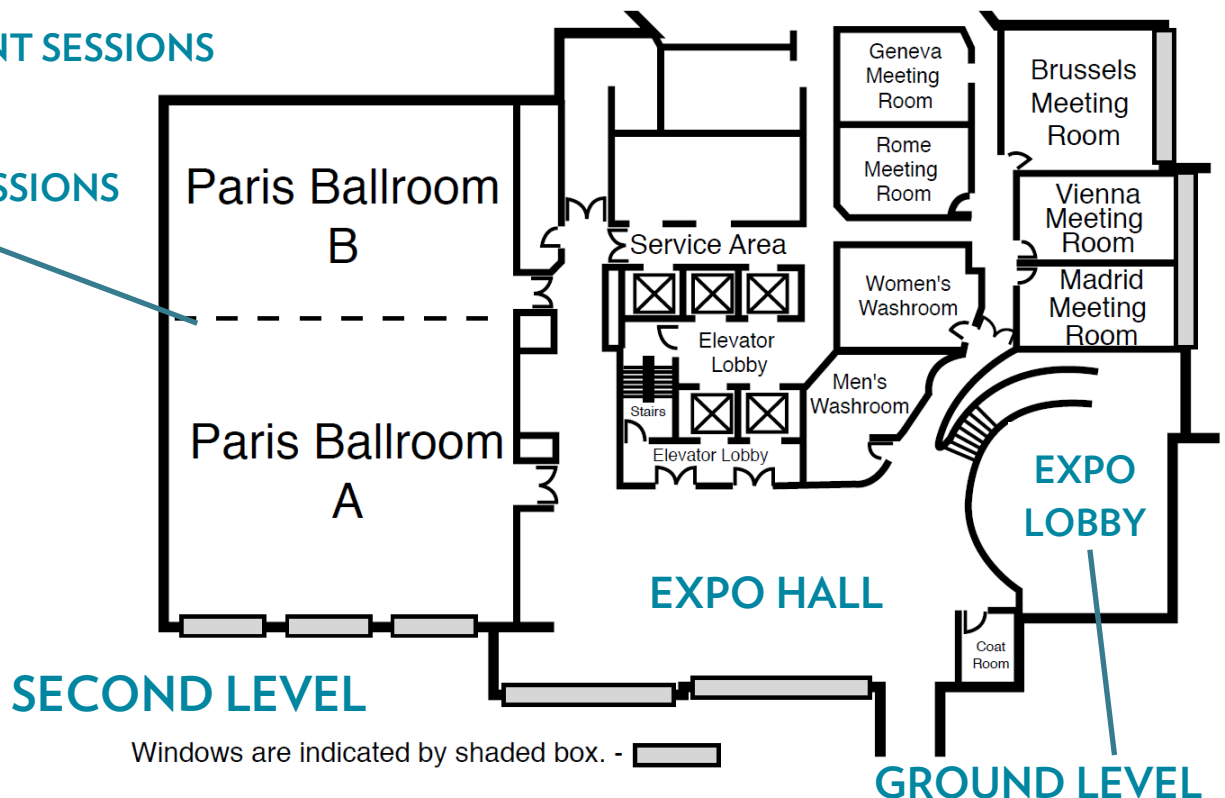
Help support the OMA and promote your institution or company by participating in the 2016 Silent Auction. Items will be on display and there will be chances to bid on the items during Conference. Donate items for the Silent Auction – (call for items form coming soon). And don't forget to check out the Silent Auction at Conference! Contact the OMA if you have an item to donate—membership@museumsontario.ca or 1-866-662-8672



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Booth 10	 ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM		



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