

# The Fire Mark

LATE SUMMER/FALL 2024

## CFFM IS UNDER ONE ROOF (ALMOST)

MICHELLE HANEY-KILEEG, CHAIR

We signed our Lease effective July 1, 2024. On two very warm days, much of our collection was moved out of storage. Though challenging work, it was rewarding because we have been reunited with the collection in a more upfront and personal manner. Tables were set up on the former ice surface and every item was examined and the best storage systems were determined.



*From stacks and boxes, items were reviewed and cross-checked on the database.*



Our trucks are not yet home, as a new door is needed to accommodate their turning radius and height plus provide a much-needed accessible public entrance.

We have been busy with range of other activities. The hockey boards and seats have been removed to make way for display. A successful inaugural 5km run was held, grant applications submitted and planning was underway for the 3rd Northumberland Antique and Vintage Sale.

Fundraising remains top of mind as we require a lift and washroom renovations to ensure visitors,

staff and volunteers of all abilities can enjoy the Arena safely.

If you need community service hours, have carpentry or related skills, love fundraising, marketing, and/or social media, CFFM has a hat for you! Tues mornings you will find us at the Arena if you want to quickly visit to see where you can fit in!

The Museum would like to thank the Municipality of Port Hope for years of free storage, and Hope Towns Initiative for coming to the rescue when we lost storage space in 2023.

## A FIREFIGHTER KEEPS GIVING

When Paul Griffen retired from the Port Hope Fire Department, he shifted to the private sector with GFL. A lifelong runner, he applied for a grant from GFL's Hills of Hope, in support of his Tunnel to Towers Run. It is held in New York City each year on the last Sunday of September.

The event symbolizes Stephen Siller's final footsteps from the foot of the Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers and pays homage to the 343 FDNY firefighters, law enforcement officers, and thousands of civilians who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

We had not caught up with Paul by press time, but he sent a picture of the cheque and some of the run. In Paul's words, "Success this weekend!"

23 years later, it was still a moving opening ceremony, I could not have been prouder to have been apart of it. It was an honor to assist again with the museum." Paul, the honour is ours and CFFM thanks you, GFL and Hills of Hope.



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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On June 26, 2024, the Museum held its 2023 Annual General Meeting in the Arena and shared a slide presentation detailing space plans and necessary renovations. There was a good discussion from the floor on how CFFM can relaunch using its web and social media. Stay tuned for updates. Please join me in welcoming the Pierre Blackburn to the CFFM Board of Directors.

Pierre has forty-two years experience in fire services, thirty-two with Canadian Armed Forces and the last ten teaching the civilian forces associated with National Defense. He has joined the board hoping to utilize his experiences and national network to help rebuild CFFM. Pierre lives in Angus Ontario and has family in Cobourg.



Canadian communities is a strong rationale for the benefits of the preservation work of the museum.

The day wrapped up with the vehicle being transported back to Cobourg. Its travel along the 401 caused much excitement by those on the highway. Many photographs were taken by drivers pulling up alongside for a good look.



Deputy Chief Pierson pictured in the cab today and 40 years ago.

## TRUCKS ON THE ROAD

On 21 September CFFM accepted an invitation from Napanee to display our 1941 GMC pumper in Market Square for their 170th anniversary of incorporation.

The truck was hauled to Napanee on a trailer and parked with other older and newer fire vehicles. It was marked to represent its 50 years of service in Napanee. It was retired to parade duty in 1976, sold to Farmers Mutual Insurance in 1991 and transferred to CFFM in 2002.

The Museum crew of Chris Terry and Dennis Waddington fielded questions from visitors. Residents were pleased to see a piece of town history on hand. Much appreciation was voiced for the CFFM's efforts to participate in the day and to honour the heritage of the fire department.

A special visitor was retired Deputy Chief Bill Pierson who as a young man had driven the truck as a volunteer fire fighter. Bill shared many tales of his time with the department. A highlight was the recreation of a photograph of Bill taken in the cab of the truck over 50 years ago.

Being able to honour decades of service within



## HOTTEST RUN IN TOWN

On June 23, 2024, the inaugural Canadian Fire Fighters Museum Charity Run/Walk took Cobourg by storm!

Representing all ages, there were 128 runners (including five virtual and thirteen in Bunker gear). Twelve teams registered including fire and police from Station 17 (Kawartha Lakes), Cobourg Fire, Cobourg Police, Quinte West Station 3, Cramahe Fire, Brighton Fire and Ajax Fire. We had wonderful



volunteers particularly 598 Sabre Squadron Air Cadets and leadership and in-kind support from TAP timing's Rod Simpson (yeah Rod, Secretary, CFFM board).

Thanks to the runners and our sponsors (Sheila Drew – ReMax, Cameco and Dancing Bee Equipment), we netted \$4764.00. Gear up for 2025's hot run.

## A FAMILY REMEMBERS THEIR FATHER WITH A MATCHING GRANT

The Faulkner family is pleased to offer a matching grant for the first \$5000 raised from individuals and families anxious to help establish the new home of the Canadian Fire Fighters' Museum. Challenged accepted!

Charles Faulkner (Chuck) joined the Toronto Fire Department at 19, one of just two new recruits before the start of the Depression. His young wife, oldest daughter and as well as the family of his sister, all of whom depended on him, were very pleased that he had steady work throughout those difficult years.

For more than 20 years, he worked out of Lombard Street, a group that called themselves the Lombardos. One of his favourite tales was about fighting a fire on the roof of the Royal York Hotel on New Year's Eve.

When he made District Chief, he was, at the time, the youngest one ever appointed. He always led from the front and was carried out of more than one fire.

The Museum has already benefitted from the family's donation of Charles's memorabilia, which was on display in the old museum. Terri Pamanter says that when her older sister, Jacci McTavish, died last fall, "it seemed a natural thing to make a memorial contribution to the CFFM as a remembrance of her and our father."

Thank you, Faulkner's, from the CFFM.



Directors Will Lambert and Dennis Waddington are on hand to accept the \$5000 matching grant from Terri Pamanter on behalf of the Faulkner family.





