

# MARKHAM MUSEUM

## Growing with Markham





Markham Museum was planned in the late 1960's by the Markham Historical Society.

The Museum opened to the public in 1971. Many of the structures on site were moved on site in the 1970's.



The Municipality assumed the operation of the Museum in 1981. Markham changed over the next 20 years.

A new master plan was written for the Museum in and endorsed by Council in 2004.





- Some aspects of the Master Plan have been successfully implemented such as the construction of the collection building.
- Two recommendations were to create a children's museum and to develop a heritage carnival. After six years neither concept was embraced nor understood by the community.





The Museum has capital funds in 2011 to access the structural integrity of some of the buildings. At the same time, the Museum is re-examining the structures for program development.



In late 2008 the Museum cut the number of annual events from 34 to 8 and in 2010 cut that further to 7.

Museum staff and Board re-examined the program direction of the Museum. We recognized that we need to continuously adapt to the changing community and offer programming that appeals to the widest possible demographic.



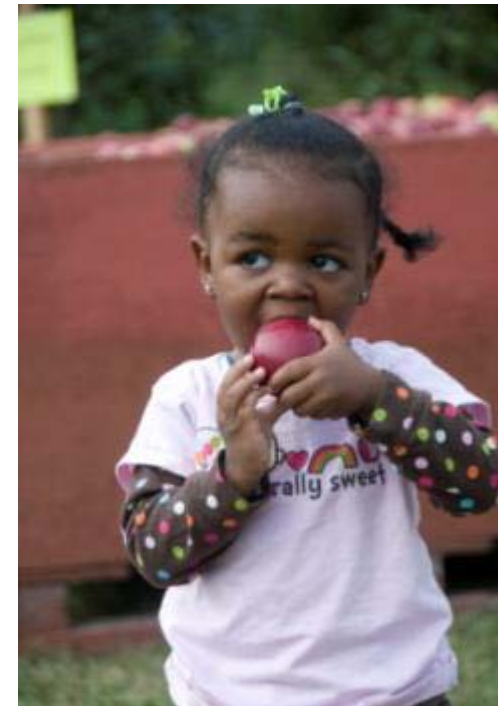


# ANNUAL EVENTS

Winterfest (New event added in 2009 for family day)  
March Break Mystery  
Art in the Park (with York Region Media Group)  
Rotary Classic Car Show (with Markham-Unionville  
Rotary Club)  
Doors Open Markham (with Heritage Markham)  
Applefest  
Scaryfest



In 2009 Markham Museum decided to refocus its program and future direction using the **three** main themes of **Settlement** as it relates to our **Environment** and the **Technologies** we use to adapt to life in Markham.





# Exhibit development to fit themes – Blacksmith Shop

The Blacksmith shop rebuild was completed in early 2010.



Two staff members received significant training as blacksmiths. Items that are made in the blacksmith shop are for repairs to museum objects and structures or for program use.

# Exhibit Development to Fit Themes:

## Print-shop

The Print shop exhibit was installed with the help of several volunteers.

Five staff members received extensive training in the print shop.

The print shop was recommended for de-accession in the Master Plan.

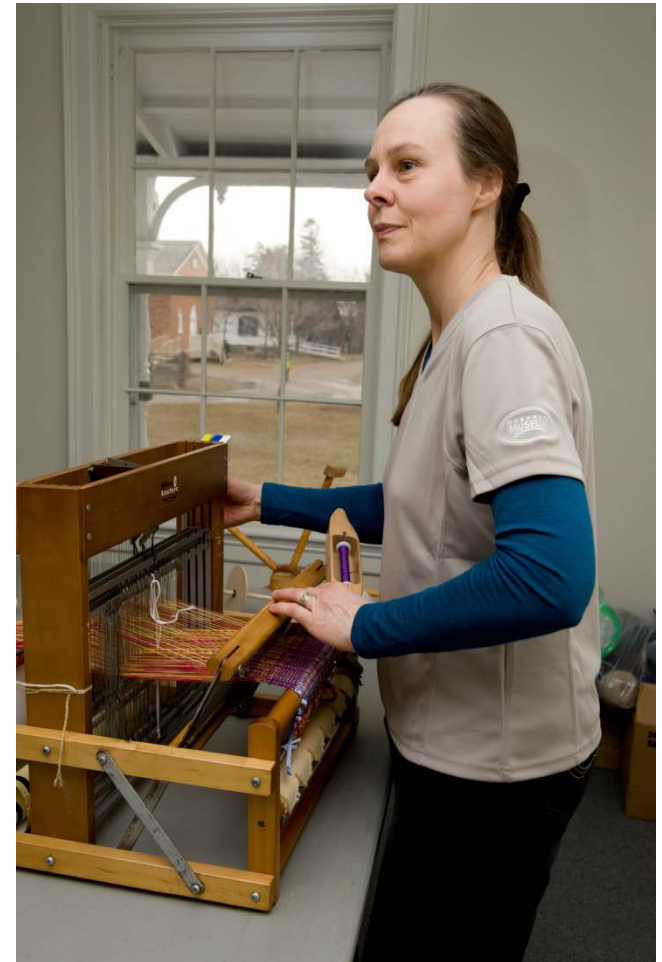


# Exhibit Development to Fit Themes:

## Textile Work-Shop



The Museum has many textile related artifacts and tools that relate to the histories of early Markham families and people new to the community. We also incorporate natural dyes that grow in our gardens.



Burkholder House was recommended for de-accession in the Master Plan.



# The Pottery Lab and Lessons Learned

- The Eby (1860's) and the later Burns Pottery were partially located on Museum grounds.
- The last excavation resulted in the Museum working with the archaeologists to create the artifact processing lab on-site.
- Pottery is a link to the diverse community – pottery traditions are universal.



The Museum has requested a feasibility study for the installation of a pottery on the Museum grounds in the 2012 Capital budget – ideally this would involve re-use of a structure already on site.

# Camp Success



Camp Revenues in 2010 represented 100% increase over total camp revenues in 2008. (In 2008 revenues were paid back to a contracted camp service.)

Program staff continue to make improvements to our camp program. In two years they have made our camp program into an educational, relevant and fun experience that is selling mostly by word-of-mouth.

# Camp Program Testimonials

Comments:

Both my children loved these 2 camps, & said of all the town of Markham camps, these 2 were their favorites. The aftercare program was far better than those offered at the other camps because the counsellors provided some structured activities as well as an opportunity for free play — & not just free play. The child management/discipline at the Markham Museum Camps was also superior to the other camps because neither of my children reported any bullying during either camp.



My son really enjoyed his time during this camp session. I would definitely register him again. I'm sad it was the last week that he was registered for or we would sign him up for more weeks this year. The staff was awesome. Very welcome and engaging with the kids.

Very good job! See you next year!  
Shehnaz Andani

Thank you!






## Guide and Brownie Program

Overnight programs are extremely successful drawing groups from across the GTA. The Museum is a recommended site on the Girl Guide website.



## Education Programs

There has been a steady increase in the number of education programs booked. Comments from teachers has been positive and we look forward to reporting continued growth.

Non-Camp Program Revenue	2009	2010	2011
FALL		50% increase	
WINTER			50% increase
SPRING			\$110% increase

Friends of the Markham  
Museum Foundation

# A Night at the Museum

## Grand Opening Gala

Celebrating Markham Museum's  
New Collections Building

**Thursday May 19, 2011**

Cocktails in the Lantern 6:30 pm

Party in the Vault 8 pm to 11 pm

Tickets: \$200

Make history as part of our ribbon-cutting ceremony as we open the doors to a striking new landmark at the Markham Museum. This exclusive formal attire event will feature creative cocktails, tantalizing hors d'oeuvres and fabulous entertainment.

We begin with Signature cocktails served in the "Lantern," the Museum's breath-taking new lobby. The celebration continues upstairs where you'll be amongst the first to marvel at the stunning exhibit hall and see-through Vault. A special performance in the exhibit hall by a rising star caps the evening.

**Come celebrate the future of history in Markham.**

Markham Museum  
9350 Markham Road  
For Tickets and Sponsorship information,  
please contact:  
The Friends of Markham Museum  
Tel: 905.294.4576 ext. 31



Some recent photos of artifact migration.....





# Volunteers = Valuable Community Engagement

1. Youth volunteers (300)
  - a. Events
  - b. Camps and PA Days
2. Adult and Senior volunteers (150)
  - a. Curatorial
  - b. Research
  - c. Maintenance Team
  - d. Garden Volunteers

## 3. FRIENDS OF THE MARKHAM MUSEUM





## Youth Engagement

The Museum works with many student volunteers.

The Museum attracts a very diverse group of volunteers, many of our youth volunteers are children of new arrivals to Canada and Markham.

With other Museums across Canada, Markham Museum applied for a federal **Inter-Action Multiculturalism Grant – Museums and Diversity Experience**.



The grant was led by the Scarborough Museum, and included Markham Museum, McCord Museum (Montreal), Surrey Museum and the Museum of Human Rights (Winnipeg).

The grant application was successful and will provide three years of funding to develop an youth mentorship program.

## MUSEUM GROWTH OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THREE AREAS

1. Rentals
2. Camp and children's programs
3. Exhibit Development
4. Pottery



