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CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION • ASSOCIATION DES MUSÉES CANADIENS

NATIONAL NEWS

M On May 8, a fire broke out at the **Huron Museum's Huron Owendat Indian Village** (Midland ON). The fire is believed to have started at approximately 8:00 pm



Entrance to the Huron Owendat Indian Village. Photo: N.Henderson.

and the cause remains undetermined. The damage to the village was extensive and at least one of two longhouses was destroyed. Fortunately the fire did not affect the Huronia Museum's main facility, nor its collections storage area. The issue of greater concern for the museum staff now is vulnerability to break-and-enters. The village has been broken into many times in the past, the most recent break-in took place on Monday night, May 7, but the investigation couldn't determine if the two incidents are related. www.huroniamuseum.com

M Starting in fall 2007, the École multidisciplinaire de l'image of the **Université du Québec en Outaouais** (Gatineau QC) will offer a new certificate program in cyber-museology, making UQO the only institution in the world to provide training in this emerging field. The goal of the program is



Lucien Brault Pavilion of UQO. Photo: Direction des communication et du recrutement (DCR), UQO (2005).

to provide tools for professionals through knowledge of the theoretical and practical principles of accomplishing museum and heritage actions using Internet media.

www.uqo.ca/emi

M Congratulations! The **Niagara Historical Museum** (Niagara-on-the-Lake ON) celebrated its 100th anniversary on June 4, 2007. The public was invited to join them in commemorating the opening of Memorial Hall, the first museum building to open in Ontario, on June 4, 1907. It was opened by the Niagara Historical Society, which was founded in 1895 to encourage the study of Canadian history and literature, to collect and preserve Canadian historical records and relics, and to build Canadian loyalty and patriotism.

www.niagarahistorical.museum



Portico of Memorial Hall. Photo: Andrea Field.

M The **Hudson Bay Company** (Hbc) and **Canada's National History Society** have established a \$50,000 grant program to help promote Canada's rich history on a local level. Financed by the Hbc History Foundation, the Hbc Local History Grant Program will award grants of up to \$1,000 to individuals and organizations promoting greater public awareness of Canada's history, especially among young people. Community projects will become possible with this funding, which was announced at the CMA's 60th annual conference in March.

www.historysociety.ca/out.asp

M On June 2, Governor General Michaëlle Jean officially inaugurated the **Royal Ontario Museum's** new Michael Lee-Chin Crystal building (Toronto ON). The free public grand opening included an outdoor

concert featuring well-known Canadian and international performers.

www.rom.on.ca

M On May 8, the **Hnatyshyn Foundation** announced the creation of a new Award for Curatorial Excellence — the first of its kind — worth \$15,000, to be awarded to a Canadian mid-career contemporary visual art curator in recognition of his or her contribution to the advancement of the contemporary visual art in Canada. The Hnatyshyn Foundation was established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's 24th Governor General, to support the arts in Canada. Each year the foundation presents eight \$10,000 scholarships to exceptional young Canadians in post-secondary performing arts training programs, and two annual prizes for excellence in Canadian visual arts: \$25,000 for a mid-career artist, and the new \$15,000 for a mid-career curator of contemporary art. The winners for 2007 will be announced in November. www.rjhf.com

M On May 24, the **Museum Strathroy-Caradoc** (Strathroy ON) celebrated its grand re-opening! After 35 years, the museum outgrew its first location in a heritage home, known as the Murray House. As part of a larger municipal redevelopment plan to revitalize the historic commercial district, and the museum's desire to increase public access, the museum is now located downtown, and has been integrated with the public library and art gallery. The redevelopment project has involved both new construction, for collections storage and workspaces, and renovations to the library and gallery for exhibition spaces.

www.strathroymuseum.ca



Anthony Meyer checks out some items on display for the grand opening exhibit *Rural Roots*. Photo: Museum Strathroy-Caradoc.



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