

MANL

# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2026 · VOLUME 43, NUMBER 3



A PUBLICATION OF THE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

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# MEMBERSHIP

MANL membership year starts on **April 1, 2025** and ends on **March 31, 2026**. To join or renew your membership, please forward your membership form to MANL by email or mail.

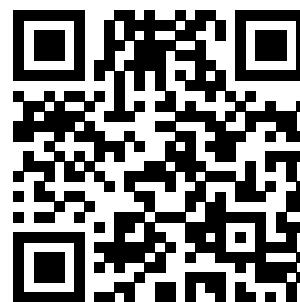
### Membership Levels

- **Institutional Membership:** This membership category is suitable for any organization, including museums, heritage societies, galleries etc. interested in the preservation and promotion of our natural and cultural heritage. Institutional memberships are valid from April 1 to March 31 and have an annual fee of \$60.00.
- **Individual Membership:** This membership is suitable for an individual person who is interested in the preservation and promotion of our natural and cultural heritage. Individual memberships are valid from April 1 to March 31 and have an annual fee of \$25.00.

We have three options for membership payment. Please select one:

- **e-Transfer:** Please forward your payment to [payments@museumsnl.ca](mailto:payments@museumsnl.ca). Please make sure to include your organization's name in the message.
- **Credit card:** You will be emailed an invoice from Square.
- **Cheque:** Please make your cheque payable to The Museum Association of NL (MANL). The cheque should be dated April 1, 2025 or later.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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# Winter Highlights from MANL

## President's Message

Dear MANL Members,

While winter settles in across NL, the work of our museum and heritage sector continues at full pace. This is not a quiet season for MANL, it's a time of focused, behind-the-scenes effort as we strengthen supports, advance initiatives, and work diligently on behalf of our member museums.

Across the province, museums continue to show resilience, creativity, and leadership. I am particularly proud of the growth of our digital programs and online engagement initiatives, which are expanding access, increasing visibility, and allowing museums to connect and learn with audiences well beyond their physical walls. These programs are already helping members reach new audiences and share their stories in exciting ways, demonstrating the value and impact of innovation in our sector.

We are also delighted to be part of the Museums Canada Summit, taking place this April in St. John's, NL. This national gathering offers an important opportunity to connect with museums from across Canada while proudly profiling the exceptional museums and historic sites of our province. The Summit allows us to showcase our stories and strengthen relationships that will benefit the sector well into the future. Opportunities to participate and engage are available as we prepare to welcome colleagues from across the country, and we encourage members to reach out to learn how they can get involved.

I would like to extend sincere thanks to our Ascend staff, whose dedication and professionalism supported the work of MANL through the Community Sector Council NL (CSCNL) program. Their contributions are essential to delivering programs, supporting members, and advancing sector priorities.

We are also grateful for the continued support of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation,



whose investment enables programming, professional development, and capacity-building initiatives across the province.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, Board of Directors, committees, partners, and volunteers for your leadership and commitment. Your time and expertise strengthen both the Association and the broader museum community.

As we move through winter and look ahead, I encourage you to stay connected, share ideas, and engage with MANL. Together, we are building a strong, innovative, and sustainable museum sector for NL.

Yours in Heritage,

Linda Hickey  
President, MANL

# Greetings from MANL

## Managing Director's Message

We've all heard the expression "It takes a village to raise a child." This ancient proverb emphasizes the importance of community and shared responsibility in raising children. I believe the same proverb can be applied to heritage organizations. In order to be sustainable, relevant and engaged with our communities, we can't do it alone, or even as a single entity, such as a heritage society, archive or museum. We need help, guidance and support from the communities we strive to represent. However, if we fail to welcome everyone in, if we don't share everyone's stories and if we are not engaging our communities, are we fulfilling our mandate as a heritage organization? More importantly, if we don't work with each other, welcome new members and partners, including those outside of our 'normal group', will we even survive?

This question has taken on an even deeper meaning lately, as we watch events unfold all around us in a world that seems to be changing daily. While the preservation of our history is often viewed as the main role of museums, heritage employees and volunteers know that our roles run much deeper. Museums include many types of organizations, including galleries, nature reserves, historical societies, and cultural centres. We are recognized as trusted sources of information, not just preserving our past, but protecting and promoting our culture. Most importantly, we help create and maintain a sense of belonging within our communities. But as our audiences become increasingly diverse, expectations also evolve. They look to heritage organizations to help explain today's world. They also expect us to be inclusive and accessible.

While these goals are admirable, where do we start? Our 2025 Heritage Conference, hosted by The Rooms on October 17-18, was our first small step. Post-conference feedback indicates our DEAI-themed conference resonated well with our members

and has already resulted in new partnerships and projects within our communities.

MANL also continues to work closely with ANLA and Heritage NL on a number of exciting projects, including creating a 3rd edition of MANL's Guidelines for the Operation of Community Museums in Newfoundland and Labrador (last published in 2007), and updating our Museum Studies Certificate Program. And on that note, we need your help. We invite everyone to please check out our professional development survey on page 13 of this newsletter. It will just take a few moments to complete and your feedback is very important to us.

In addition, Heritage NL's highly successful Heritage Youth Forum will be back again this March. In 2025, following the forum, we initiated our first Virtual Heritage Job Fair, successfully matching employers and youth employees from across the province. The Museums Canada Summit (April 19-21), Museums Day NL 2026 Celebrations (July 11), as well as our Annual Provincial Heritage Conference (October 16-18) are just a few of the events we are working on this year.

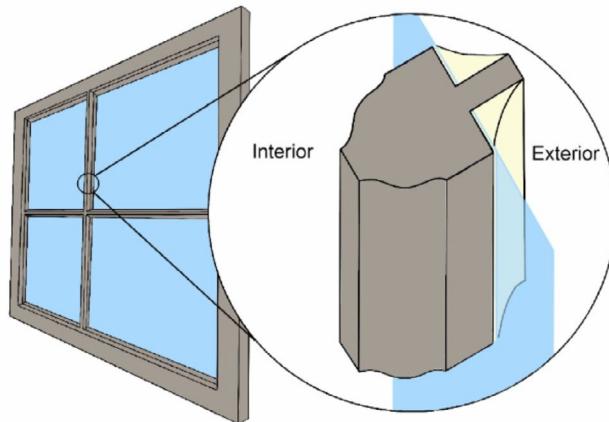
On behalf of my fabulous co-workers at the MANL office, we hope you enjoy our first newsletter for 2026. We invite you to stay in touch and keep up to date on our latest membership updates, events, and professional development opportunities, including our monthly Midday Museum series. If you haven't already, be sure to subscribe to our weekly museum announcements for all the latest. To subscribe, simply visit: [museumsnl.ca/museum-announcements](http://museumsnl.ca/museum-announcements).

Take Care,

Anne Madden  
Managing Director, MANL

# Measuring Muntins: The First Steps in Creating a Chronology

By Tienne Mouland



Since June of 2025, the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (Heritage NL) has been visiting properties across the Avalon Peninsula to measure and profile muntins bars on historic wooden windows. You would likely recognize these bars even if the name muntin isn't familiar—they are the thin vertical and horizontal bars that hold glass in old windows.

Today, these bars aren't as common as they used to be, but for centuries they were essential to the structure of a window. Until the early to mid-20th century, it wasn't possible or was too expensive to make panes of glass large enough to cover an entire window, so instead, multiple smaller pieces were used and held by muntins. From the outside of a window, these bars appeared generally identical, but from the inside, their variation could truly be seen. The bars were moulded on their interior side, with profiles that reflected the architectural trends of the time.

Interestingly, even though these bars were present in most western-style wooden windows, there hasn't been much research done on them—and even less based in Newfoundland and Labrador. To begin to understand the variation in these bars, Heritage NL started an inventory of muntins from within the province.

From June to December of 2025 we visited twenty-one

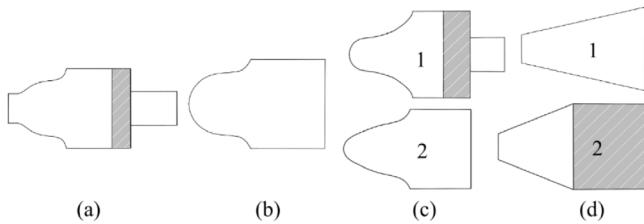
properties where we measured and profiled a total of forty-two muntins. Four muntins were taken out of the analysis pool because of issues with measurements, material, and age, leaving a total of thirty-eight. One property was on the Bonavista Peninsula, while all others were on the Avalon Peninsula. Muntins were measured using a calliper and ruler, and profiled using a profile gauge, then made into sketches on a digital art program called Sketchbook Pro.

Initial analysis of this inventory has shown that there are four identifiable profiles seen on muntins: (1) Multi-Curved, which have multiple curves or angles; (2) Spherical, which has a rounded end and no convex or concave curve; (3) Angular, which have sharp angles and trapezoid-like shape and separated into Flat (without body) and Bodied (with body) types; and (4) Conical, which are cone-like in shape and either Concave or Convexly curved.

With a sample size of only thirty-eight profiles, we can't make overarching conclusions about muntins on Newfoundland Island, but it is promising that we are seeing trends. To begin, we can see that profiles appeared through time as follows: Multi-Curved, Conical Concave, Conical Convex, Spherical, Angular Bodied, and finally Angular Flat. A more in-depth inventory of muntins would clarify when profiles first appeared and when they stopped being used, but this is a great starting point to see generally when they were common.

Multi-Curved turned out to be the most common and enduring profile with a total of twenty-six appearances from its first at a property that was built between 1827-1831 and the last in 1963. Multi-curved were used at commercial, residential, public, religious, governmental, industrial, and farming property types, showing it was always in favour regardless of location or time period.

The results also show that the 1890s was the most concentrated and varied decade, with fourteen profiles



*Profiles of muntins: (a) Munti-Curved, (b) Spherical, (c-1) Conical Concave, (c-2) Conical Convex, (d-1) Angular Flat, and (d-2) Angular Bodied.*

total. Seven of these fourteen profiles are a direct result of the rebuilding process after the St. John's fire of 1892, including the Gower Street United Church, Masonic Temple, and two row-houses. These profiles consist of five Multi-Curved—the favourite—and two Angular Flat. Excitingly, when we compare the profiles seen in

this project to those that are found in other regions of North America, there are distinct shapes that aren't present there (and vice versa). This means the Avalon Peninsula region of Newfoundland Island could have vernacular muntin styles and likewise, a timeline that is distinct to the region.

Only more research will confirm or deny this, but we're excited to share the results of this project as the groundwork for others to build upon. Eventually, we hope to fully understand the transitions between muntin styles and possibly see a full chronology that highlights the unique style of Newfoundland and Labrador.

A full report can be found on Heritage NL's website or here:

[heritagenl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/045-Measuring-Muntins.pdf](http://heritagenl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/045-Measuring-Muntins.pdf)

# Youth Heritage Forum 2026

Returning in 2026, the Youth Heritage Forum is a one-day event for students and emerging professionals (ages ~18-35) that focuses on networking, mentorship, and professional development.

Location: The Johnson Geo Centre, 175 Signal Hill Road, St. John's

Date: Saturday, March 21st 2026

Heritage NL and its partners, the Museums Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives, the Admiralty House Communications Museum, and the Johnson Geo Centre are organizing the 5th Youth Heritage Forum on March 21st!

The Youth Heritage Forum defines heritage broadly, encompassing heritage conservation, history, folklore, archaeology, museums, archives, galleries, traditional crafts, and more. The day is designed as an entry point for youth to become involved with the cultural sector, to network with members of local boards of directors and historical committees, and to introduce you to possible paid and volunteer opportunities.

The event has three sections, starting with mentorship speed-dating to partner youth with experts in exhibit design and curation, public programming, reconciliation and more. The afternoon will include seminars on



*Youth heritage Forum 2025. Photo credit: MANL*

genealogy and youth engagement, with organizations such as the Family History Society of NL, the Community Sector Council of NL, Fishing for Success, and ending with a craft of making model fishing stages.

The Youth Heritage Forum is an excellent opportunity for students, recent graduates, and emerging professionals to network and attend professional development seminars and workshops.

Registration is now open! Follow this link for more information:

[heritagetomorrownl.wordpress.com](http://heritagetomorrownl.wordpress.com)

# HSA Awards for Excellence



## 2024 HSA Award Winners

Every second year, the Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (HSA) recognizes outstanding achievements in our province's history and heritage through the HSA Awards for Excellence. Five cash prizes of \$1,000 are presented in three categories: the Honourable Edward Roberts History Book Award, the Paul O'Neil Scholarship and the Manning Awards, with the latter including awards for outstanding heritage organization, outstanding heritage project, and outstanding heritage supporter.

Nominations for the 2026 HSA Awards are open until March 31st. Just head to [historicsites.ca/our-work](http://historicsites.ca/our-work) to learn more. You'll also find a link to our on-line nomination form.

In addition to the cash prize, there are plenty of great reasons you should nominate a valued employee or volunteer, your organization, or a project completed within the last two years:

### Boost Visibility

Established in 1993, the awards are held under the patronage of the Lieutenant Governor of

Newfoundland and Labrador, providing prestige and visibility for your work.

### Validate Community Efforts

The program specifically rewards projects that demonstrate strong community involvement, helping to prove the social and cultural relevance of your work to donors and stakeholders.

### Support for Future Funding

Receiving a HSA Award for Excellence serves as a powerful "stamp of approval" that can bolster future grant applications.

### Celebrate Your Volunteers

Nominating a project is an excellent way to publicly thank the volunteers and staff whose tireless work keeps your community's stories alive.

### Attend our Awards Gala

Finalists will be invited to join us for an evening of celebration at the Majestic Theatre in St. John's. Winners will be announced live.

Looking for more information? Feel free to reach out at [director@historicsites.ca](mailto:director@historicsites.ca)

# Notes From the Aviation History NL Logbook

In August, AHNL members conducted recorded interviews in central Newfoundland for a digital media initiative. At Gander's North Atlantic Aviation Museum, board president Wayne Lorenzen discussed the airport's history and plans for the museum's expansion. At Gander International Airport, retired air traffic controller Glenn Blandford spoke at length about his father, Sam Blandford, and his contributions to the aviation industry, beginning in 1940 with his employment at Gander with the RAF Ferry Command. Among the highlights, an interview with Eileen Elms, lifelong resident of the town. Eileen arrived at the fledgling airport as a six-year-old with her mother, sister, and brother in January 1940. Eileen has a vivid recall of events and shared memories of her childhood in wartime Gander, including a chance meeting at her home with Elliott Roosevelt, son of then US president Franklin Roosevelt. Finally, Sheldon Kirby, curator of the Fox Moth Heritage Centre in Norris Arm, happily guided AHNL members on a tour of the museum and spoke of Norris Arm's lesser-known, prewar contribution to our province's aviation history. Additional filming took place at the Botwood Flying Boat Museum, the old Gander townsite, and the long-abandoned piggery, established by the RAF during the war and run by Joseph R. Smallwood.

The timing of the digital initiative was intended to coincide with the arrival at Gander of some special visitors from California, Jackie and Tim Brown and their two close friends. Jackie's uncle, 2nd Lt. Edmund Breschini, was among a ten-man American crew lost in the crash of a B-24 Liberator bomber near Gander in February 1945 while en route overseas. AHNL members Darrell Hillier and David Hebbard, and museum president Wayne Lorenzen, guided the visitors on a somewhat challenging but successful visit to the crash site to pay their respects. The travellers were very appreciative of our efforts. Dr. Michael Deal, retired MUN archaeology professor and organization member, headed an archaeological survey of the site some years back. Artifacts recovered by Dr.



*Jackie Brown*

Deal's team are presently housed at The Rooms. Collections manager Lori Temple kindly arranged a private viewing for our American visitors. Among the artifacts are the sterling silver navigator wings worn by Jackie's uncle. Stay tuned, as the story of this flight, its secret mission, and familial legacy is the subject of a feature documentary, written and produced by David W. Hebbard, and to be presented for viewing by AHNL at Gander early in 2026.

Lastly, a significant donation of artifacts came the way of AHNL courtesy of Alan Clarke, grandson of aviation pioneer Douglas Fraser who piloted the first landing at Gander in 1938. Gifted to AHNL was a De Havilland fuel tank and starting motor, and a Curtiss Robin landing strut, all of 1930s vintage.

AHNL has also produced a series of vignettes, podcasts, and some video-recorded anecdotes by that wonderful storyteller and organization member Dave Paddon. You can find them on our Facebook page.

Happy Landings!

# Trinity Bay North Historical Society and its Role in the Historic Preservation of the Area

The Trinity Bay North Historical Society was re-established in March of 2023 with the historic preservation of the area identified as its main goal. To this end, the primary focus of the society since 2023 has been to maintain the Catalina Museum, a local historical gem, also known as Arch's Dream Museum.

This building was the former St. Peter's Anglican School, a 2-room school that opened its doors in the 1930s. One classroom of this former school has been authentically restored as a classroom in the 1930s-1940s complete with pot belly stove, pump organ, row desks, books and other items that bring back nostalgic memories of a time long forgotten or unknown to many. Artifacts dating as far back as the 1700s are on display in the second classroom of this building as well as literature and photos depicting life many years ago – most on loan from citizens in the TBN area.

The Historical Society sees this unique site as an integral component of the area's cultural and tourism infrastructure. Therefore, maintaining the site is imperative. The building's roof was in a state of disrepair, so our first task was to acquire funding to carry out repairs which we did through the JCP Program. A wheelchair ramp was upgraded and exterior painting done. Because the building lacks a heat source, we are currently working hard to access funding and raise money to install a much needed heat pump.

Summer student grants are needed to operate our museum during the summer season. This year the number of hours granted was less than previous years so the museum was closed for two days every week to accommodate our one student worker. The museum was opened to many tourists and locals alike from July 2nd to August 22nd.



*The interior of the Catalina Museum. Photo Credit: Trinity Bay North Historical Society*

We hosted a very successful Museum Fun Day in August as part of the annual TBN Summer Festival. The day was complete with a museum scavenger hunt, free hotdogs, and live music. The excitement of the children and adults as they poked around the museum learning about the past was well worth the time spent preparing for the event.

Identifying future historic restoration projects will be a focus next. One of those projects includes seeking funding needed to restore broken and damaged timeworn headstones in our local cemeteries.

We are presently in the process of re-locating a German WW1 mortar that was donated and will be placed at the local War Memorial site hopefully in time for the annual Remembrance Day ceremony in November.

These projects and any future historic restoration projects necessitate funding that we continue to actively search for as we also plan our local fundraisers. We're a small but very busy group of volunteers!

# AI in Heritage: Is It Worth It?

By Anna Sorensen

On January 27, 2026, I presented a talk entitled “AI Awareness” as part of MANL’s Midday Museums series. I gave as expansive of an overview of artificial intelligence as I could in under an hour, covering the definition and fundamentals of what AI systems are, tips on how to spot AI, the real world impacts that the AI industry has, and how these topics relate to the heritage sector today. In this article, I will expound on some of the points I made in the final section of my presentation.

Why does AI use matter so specifically in heritage communities today? There are a few answers to this question. Firstly, I believe wholeheartedly in the power of human stories. There is a level of intimacy and respect required during the process of interpreting the stories we share through museums and heritage organisations. By delegating tasks to an algorithm, we risk the deterioration of any worthwhile effect we could have produced. AI systems are designed to repeat the most common token of information in the most common pattern as many times as it can. Which means that by using it as a tool to complete any task in your organisation, public facing or administrative, you are simply reproducing what thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of other organisations are doing. It may come with a convincingly appropriate facade, but underneath there is nothing of substance being offered.

Secondly, I worry about the broken trust that will come with the use of AI in heritage. There is a growing global conversation about truth and the distinction between fact and fiction. In a world where books are banned from schools at an alarming rate, disinformation is being spread unabashedly by leading government officials, and inequality gaps are growing into inequality chasms, being able to provide trustworthy information and education to our communities is imperative. As organisations continue to publicly rely on AI use in

their marketing, project development, and more, people will be less likely to believe that anything they produce comes from a reliable human source. The loss of these meaningful connections with the public would be detrimental to the sustainability of our sector, and would have devastating consequences for our ability to present and uplift the voices of our communities.

Finally, I want to emphasise that AI systems are neither neutral nor objective in any way. They are statistical analysis machines that have been trained to speak with an authoritative voice. The opinions, perspectives, and finely tuned “correctness” of information AI presents is fundamentally informed by the biases and interests of the companies that develop them. Even the language that is used to convey seemingly simple tidbits of information could be deeply entrenched in specific cultural norms that influence people’s perception and values. Intentionally or not, these tools are being wielded in a way that perpetuates harmful rhetoric and consolidates cultural power. Without deeply critical engagement when it comes to any and all AI use, heritage workers will spread ideals that have already been seen time and time again to do harm to the communities they claim to serve.

I am not the arbiter of how the heritage sector will respond to the development of the AI industry. I do not have that power, nor do I want it. However, when I look around at the tides of discourse, my voice feels like a very small pebble pushing back against the waves of those who welcome the adoption of artificial intelligence with open arms. If you want to learn more about how fantastically amazing AI is, you do not need to look very hard. All I hope to do is offer a second of hesitation where you truly examine if AI use is worth the cost it comes with.

# Is Your Website Accessible?

By Christian Legge

In the heritage and museums sector, preserving the artifacts, documents, and architecture of the people who came before us is one of our highest priorities. Ensuring that these wealths of culture, information, and heritage are well preserved for generations to come is just one part of making our culture and history accessible. Today, we live in an era of information sharing at levels never before seen. In an era such as this, accessibility is a huge point of interest and can make a museum or heritage society stand out from others and draw in audiences that could otherwise not even know of your existence.

Accessibility in the modern world is an opportunity to include seniors and people with disabilities. These audiences are the most affected by the accessibility of establishments, such as wheelchair access determining whether a wheelchair-bound person can enter and enjoy an organisation's exhibits and displays. These needs also apply to the online space. Websites are important for getting information out into the eye of the public, and just like how wheelchair accessibility in a facility makes a disabled person feel welcomed, it is important to make a website accessible so people of all levels of ability feel welcomed.

When thinking about accessibility there are so many different facets to be considered that it can feel overwhelming. The best place to start is the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, also known as WCAG, where all facets of digital accessibility are explained. The WCAG is important because it gives you the context for understanding the Web Accessibility Evaluation Tools created by the Web Accessibility Initiative. There are many tools to choose from, some of them are even free. The free tools are a fantastic place to start considering what can be improved on your site, as they will point to the exact part of your site that can be updated to comply with the WCAG. As someone who had no idea how to take on this task, the tools on this site were instrumental in developing a plan of action to address our website's accessibility.

Recently, the MANL website has been receiving a variety of new updates. One has been to include more accessibility options and fixing issues on the back end for that. For example, our website has recently added a new button in the bottom right hand corner, that when clicked opens a list of options to help those of varying abilities, such as options to accommodate colour blindness, increase the size of text, make text easy to read for those affected by dyslexia, and more! All of these options come from a single button, and that button comes from a single plugin! The plugin on our site is called AccessYes, it is free and can be integrated into a variety of website services. This one addition has been hugely helpful when trying to make our site accessibility compliant, so it can be a good place to start any updates.

When considering accessibility, remember that when you take these steps, you are paving the way forward for those who need help more than most. You're including those who may not even know they could be a part of the world of heritage and culture. It may be the first time someone is introduced to a lifelong passion for the heritage and culture that we all love. Remember that Newfoundland and Labrador is one of the most welcoming parts of the world, and our websites should follow that example and welcome all. The next generation who takes care of our heritage sites and cultural facilities may not have the same abilities as others, but they'll be driven by the same love of history that drives us all. We just have to include them first!

## Resources and Citations

WCAG: [w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/)

List of website evaluation tools: [w3.org/WAI/test-evaluate/tools/list/](https://www.w3.org/WAI/test-evaluate/tools/list/)

Accessibility statement guidelines: [w3.org/WAI/planning/statements/](https://www.w3.org/WAI/planning/statements/)

AccessYes: [cookieyes.com/product/accessibility-widget/](https://cookieyes.com/product/accessibility-widget/)

# Saying Goodbye to ASCEND Cohort 2



*Anna Sorensen*

We are saying goodbye to ASCEND Cohort 2: Anna Sorensen, Operations Coordinator, and Christian Legge, Membership Outreach Assistant. It has been so wonderful to have Anna and Christian working with us for the past four months on a wide variety of projects: from event coordination and membership outreach initiatives, to program and resource development.

Thank you Anna for all your help during the 2025 Heritage Conference and pre-conference workshops, developing new programs and resources for us, reviewing and editing grant applications, and keeping our membership and professional development databases in tip-top shape. We couldn't cease to be amazed by your research skills, strong analytical thinking, and ability to confidently handle new tasks.

Thank you Christian for making our website so much more accessible and user-friendly, developing outreach programs, updating resource lists on our members' portal, and keeping our office space tidy and welcoming. Your unparalleled tech skills, extensive knowledge of accessibility best practices, and attention to detail are truly invaluable.

*Christian Legge*

During their time at MANL, Anna and Christian worked hard to fulfill our mission to support institutions and individuals interested in preserving the province's heritage through professional development, advocacy and resource sharing, ensuring that we as an organization continue serving our membership the best we can. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to have had Anna and Christian on board and to have supported their professional growth, and cannot wait to see where their journeys take them!

Anna's and Christian's positions were made possible thanks to the ASCEND program (Achieving Success through Community ENgagement & Development), funded by the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy and led by Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSCNL). Through provincial minimum wage subsidized 19-21 week work placements in community sector organizations, ASCEND gives youth the hands-on experience, mentorship, and career development they need to succeed. Applications are currently open for the Spring 2026 cohort for both youth and employers! Make sure to apply by March 15: [joinascend.ca](http://joinascend.ca).

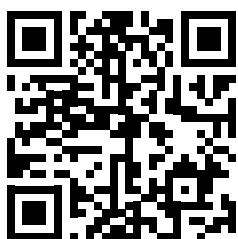
# Revamping the Museum Studies Certificate Program

The Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (MANL) is committed to our mandate to promote professionalism and skills development within the museum and heritage community. Part of fulfilling that commitment is through offering the Museum Studies Certificate program. The purpose of this program is to provide professionals and volunteers in our province with an introduction to current theories, standards, and best practices in the sector.

To ensure that we continue to meet the ever-evolving professional development needs of our local museum and heritage community, we are embarking on a journey to revamp our Museum Studies Certificate program. To begin the first phase of this project, we at MANL are asking for your feedback.

Whether you are an experienced museum or heritage professional, a new volunteer, or are just considering getting involved in the sector, we want to hear from you! Through filling out this survey, you have the chance to tell us all about your professional development needs, the barriers you face, and what we can do to better address these concerns.

The survey will be open until **4:30 PM NST on Friday, March 13, 2026**.



*Anne Madden, MANL's Managing Director, presents a Certificate in Museum Studies to Terra Barrett, Heritage NL's Intangible Cultural Heritage Program Planner. Photo credit: MANL*

## Museums Canada Summit 2026: Funding Support Available for MANL Members

MANL is pleased to offer financial support to institutional members wishing to attend the Museums Canada Summit, taking place in St. John's in April 2026.

Funding in the amount of \$15,000, provided by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, and Recreation, is available to support member attendance.

For more information on the application process, please contact MANL at [info@museumsnl.ca](mailto:info@museumsnl.ca). For more information about the summit: [museumsCanada.ca/stjohns-2026](http://museumsCanada.ca/stjohns-2026)



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