

Volunteer Opportunities



Year-Round Opportunities

Special Events

Our long established special events are now our signature in the community and tremendously popular (albeit weather influenced). On the day, we can use help with tent set up, chair assembly, and the running of food and dishes to and from the Tearoom. Event days are always fun and a great ambience always ensues.

Programming

Visits to the Farm itself are generally staff managed but we would like to expand our ability to visit classrooms, etc. throughout the winter months. This would be a longer term role, to invest in and develop knowledge of museum programming, but would involve just a few days each year.

Crafting and Craft Demonstrations

Do you rug hook, spin, knit, do needlework? Are you willing to demonstrate traditional crafts? The Giles House kitchen provides a perfect spot. The Farm has a rug hooking frame available for use on site if hooking is something you have been meaning to try.

Vehicle/Transportation

Many animal supplies can be obtained more economically by travelling outside the city to get them. This is particularly true of wood shavings, used for animal bedding. We can cut out costs almost by half if a willing volunteer will make the drive to get them for us. Occasionally, we can use help moving or collecting artifacts. If you have a spacious vehicle we could use your assistance.

In-Season Opportunities

Giles House Attendant

The Giles House is the museum's central exhibit space. It is interpreted, in part, as a living history space with the majority of artifacts dating from the late 19th to mid 20th century. It is the most visited exhibit area of the Museum and benefits greatly from a human presence to provide both information and security. The Giles House Attendant role could also incorporate interpretive activities, light research projects or craft demonstrations - it is up to you!

Gardening

The work is never done in the garden and there is always room for more volunteers. Whether your interest lies in vegetables, flowers, herbs, soil and compost, we have it all. The museum can provide incredible learning opportunities to novice gardeners as well - you do not need

experience as our core garden team possess a wealth of horticultural knowledge and are happy to share it.

Grass Cutting

Spring and fall is a time of particular need, when students are not on staff. We have two decent mowers and a lot of grass.

Off-Season Opportunities

Auction/Fundraising

The spring dinner and auction is our largest fundraiser and something the Society has come to depend upon. Support is always needed, especially in the gathering of quality auction items. Extra hands to visit, for example, downtown restaurants, would be a huge help. The auction committee begins activities in November of each year.

Additional fundraising activities take place throughout the year and could grow further with more volunteer support.

Cleaning of Artifacts

Many of our agricultural artifacts require cleaning and oiling in order to preserve them; tasks the Curator is pressed to find time for. This is a task that could be quietly performed in our new woodshop.

Research

The more we can research and document our archival collection, the greater resource we become. In some cases, arrangements may be made with the Curator to work from home, on a limited basis.

Time commitments vary for each role, but many a worthwhile contribution can be made in just one afternoon. If something has caught your interest please visit our website and download and complete the Volunteer Application Form and return to us by mail, email or in person. Alternatively, or if you would like more information, please drop by the Farm and chat with myself or our Curator Terry.

Cataloguing

Over the last 40 years each artefact that has come into the museum has been catalogued in some way, so that we have a record. Most of this cataloguing has been done on paper however, and moving all the information to our online database is of the utmost importance. If you have an interest in museums and how we run behind the scenes this is a great opportunity to make a difference and learn some of the more technical aspects of running a museum.

Digitizing

Scanning documents/photographs, taking pictures of artefacts and getting all the information onto the computer is the key theme for this opportunity. This is a big job, but something that you could do easily if you have a very limited amount of time you're able to commit.