



— Collections. Spaces. People. —

Oshawa Historical Society

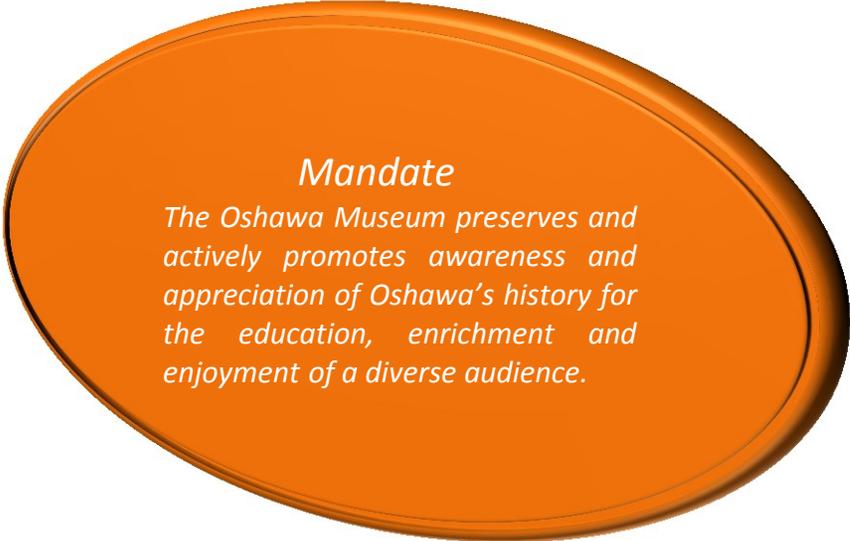
Managing the

Oshawa Museum

Strategic Plan 2017



Collections ● Spaces ● People



Mandate

The Oshawa Museum preserves and actively promotes awareness and appreciation of Oshawa's history for the education, enrichment and enjoyment of a diverse audience.

Our Values

The OM will be guided in all its activities by the following values:

Respect: being trustworthy, professional, accurate, informed, dependable

Pro-active outreach: being collaborative, creative, connected with community

Inclusive: being accessible, open, welcoming

Education: being engaging, original, imaginative, diverse

Presentation: our collection helps us to understand and connect with our City both past and present

Diligence: being accomplished, consistent, mindful

2017 Agency Objectives

The OHS recognizes the need for responsible action that will ensure the sustainability of Oshawa in the future. A strong commitment to the arts and culture community can contribute to this overall vision by supporting creative collaboration, developing innovative ways to accomplish the Oshawa Strategic Plan (OSP) and the Arts, Culture and Heritage Plan (ACHP) as well as the strategic vision and action plan *Looking Ahead*, recently released by the Ontario Museum Association. We have identified five strategic objectives for 2017 that contribute to all five of the OSP goals, the six strategic directions identified in the ACHP and the four themes presented in *Looking Ahead*.

Objective

To be vibrant and vital

The OM is part of a vibrant cultural community in Oshawa. We will continue in 2017 to focus on providing meaningful experiences for our users

Strategies

- ≈ Provide inspiring and accessible spaces for the community, public and our visitors
- ≈ Provide dynamic learning opportunities and experiences
- ≈ Continue to be socially engaged with the community

Actions

- ≈ Continue to promote alternate uses for museum's space
- ≈ Continue to explore ways to engage youth in museum
- ≈ Continue to illustrate the importance of museums to quality of life
- ≈ 60th anniversary celebration

Objective

To present relevant and meaningful collections

The OM continues to explore alternate and relevant ways to increase public use of the collection.

Strategies

- ⋄ Enhance public access to collections
- ⋄ Explore new models for developing tangible and intangible collections

Actions

- ⋄ Identify and address gaps in collection
- ⋄ Support cooperative collecting policies amongst Oshawa collecting agencies
- ⋄ Complete Newspaper Digitization Project



Objective

To be strong and successful

The OM maintains strong relationships with our partners and other organizations and will continue to seek new relationships to strengthen and support our mandate.

Strategies

- ≈ Continue to encourage additional sources of revenue
- ≈ Cultivate collaborations within the culture sector and with other sectors
- ≈ Practice good governance to ensure effective and efficient management

Actions

- ≈ Continue to build capacity to attract philanthropic support
- ≈ Strategically develop collaborations with higher education sector
- ≈ Review policies and procedures as needed



Objective

To support a strong and collaborative staff

The OM has a committed, professional staff and ongoing skill development is encouraged. Staff will continue to pursue meaningful connections with academia.

Strategies

- ≈ Continue to promote a meaningful connection with educational institutions
- ≈ Support a research framework which facilitates museum work and demonstrates our impact on the community
- ≈ Continue to promote effective human resource practices

Actions

- ≈ Continue to publish original research
- ≈ Promote a culture of continuous learning and improvement
- ≈ Develop partnerships with local schools
- ≈ Promote sponsorship of school visits



Objective

Provide space and facilities that are aesthetically pleasing and effective in preserving and interpreting Museum collections.

The OHS will continue to investigate the provision of space and facilities to allow the OM to operate efficiently and sustainably

Strategies

- ≈ Define site requirements
- ≈ Consider the Canadian Conservation Institute Facility Assessment Report
- ≈ Develop an initial design concept which seeks to define general scope, scale and relationships of building components

Actions

- ≈ Define site parameters
- ≈ Assist CCI with assessment
- ≈ Prepare preliminary exhibition and display design
- ≈ Prepare floor plans, sections



Our strength lies in our collections, our spaces and our people and the connections we make. History organizations make their communities more attractive places in which to live, work, learn and play. With astute leadership, compelling vision, and partners and resources sufficient to the task, the OHS will continue to be a leader in the arts, culture and heritage community of Oshawa.

