



Tantramar Heritage Trust, P.O. Box 3554, 29B Queens Road, Sackville, N.B. E4L 4G4

Phone: 506-536-2541

Email: tantramarheritage@gmail.com

Twitter: @TrustTantramar

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tantramarheritage/

Web Site: <http://heritage.tantramar.com/>

Dear Member of the Tantramar Heritage Trust,

As President, I want to thank you for your support of the Tantramar Heritage Trust. It is the generosity of people like you that has made possible the progress we have made over the past twenty years—yes 2016 is our **TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY!** Your support, through your dedication as a volunteer, through your participation in events, and through your generous donations has ensured the growth of the Trust from a small group with a vision in 1996 to a vibrant organization with museums and programmes today.

Twenty years ago, the Trust set out its objectives:

- To establish and operate museums
- To stimulate public interest in the history of the Tantramar region
- To encourage the collection and display of items of historical significance
- To promote the preservation of historic building, landmarks, landscapes, and sites
- To acquire real and personal property and use it in a way appropriate to the Trust's objectives
- To establish heritage educational programmes.

The Trust has certainly worked very hard in each of the above categories. A quick look at our accomplishments will show this:

- Campbell Carriage Factory Museum; a working Blacksmith Shop; a Marsh Barn
- Boultenhouse Heritage Centre; Anderson Octagonal House; Alec R. Purdy Tantramar History and Genealogical Research Centre;
- many donations of artefacts from people in the Tantramar region and from farther afield;
- exhibits on ship building; The Wry Family Collection; exhibits in the Carriage Factory;
- ***The White Fence*** has circulated from January of 1997 to the present. That is quite an accomplishment.
- Our Publications are outstanding. One of the best known is ***Sackville Then and Now***, still very popular. This year the third Acadian Atlas, ***Settlement of the Beaubassin 1660-1775*** by Paul Surette was published. It was launched most successfully at the Nova Scotia Tourist Bureau on the N.S./N.B. border (site of Beaubassin village). **All our publications can be found through links on our web site.**

The Trust has supported public presentations on the history of the Tantramar region and has partnered with other organizations to do this.

- On Heritage Day in February 2016, the Trust partnered with several of the older church congregations in the Tantramar area, and the Town of Sackville, to showcase the histories of these congregations as told by the church members themselves. This event was held in the Town Hall. The presentations are now being compiled into book form.

- A special presentation to celebrate our twentieth anniversary was a result of our collaboration with Owen's Art Gallery to present: *Tantramar again, again: An exhibition celebrating twenty years of the Tantramar Heritage Trust* (the title comes from a poem by C.G.D. Roberts) from 17 June to 19 October, 2016
- Another special presentation was the original play by Jamie Bradley, *Before the Leaves Turn*, commissioned by the Trust and directed by our own Executive Director, Karen Valanne. This was funded by the Canadian Heritage Commemorate Canada Program. In March, 2016 the play toured to ten communities throughout New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where it was seen by over 500 people. It captured the experience of the Maritime home front during World War One. Response was overwhelmingly positive.
- Summer programming at our museum sites was successful again this year with a combination of specific events for adults, families and children. A few examples are:
 - Blacksmithing demonstrations Special Opening Day Events at Museums
 - Canada Day Strawberry Social with music "Make It!" Workshops for Children
 - Heritage Day Field Day with traditional games Poetry Appreciation Night



The Tantramar Heritage Trust is also looking to the future, both in ensuring our financial security, and in engaging in forward planning and looking at new activities.

- We have undertaken an exercise to develop a new **Strategic Plan**. A questionnaire was sent to all members and also posted on the web site. Thank you for your responses. The progress so far is posted on our web site and consists of our new Mission and Visions Statements and Principles. Committees are now working on updating their Policy Statements (if necessary) in light of these new statements.
- In the area of finances, we received an unexpected and extremely generous donation from the estate of Alex R. Purdy who descended from the Boultenhouse family. This is outlined in *The White Fence #71* January, 2016 which can be found on our web site. The money is being used to set up an **Endowment Fund** for the Trust.
- We are looking forward to retiring our capital debt. There is a final payment to be made by December 31, 2016. A very generous anonymous donor has offered to match any capital donations (up to \$10,000) received in the 2016 calendar year. This donor made the same donation in the 2015 calendar year. It should be made clear that we paid off the \$20,000 debt for 2016 from the Alex Purdy donation. However, since this fund is to be used as an endowment fund, the \$20,000 has to be paid back into that fund as quickly as possible. Your capital donations and the matching donation of our anonymous donor will make this possible. **Please consider a donation to the capital fund, and remember, these donations must be received by 31 December, 2016.**
- On a sad note, in July we lost a long-time friend and supporter of the Trust, Pauline Spatz. Generous to the end, she left to the Trust the articles which make up the Wry Family Collection and a sum of money. We are in the process of obtaining the rest of the articles which we hope to put into a new exhibit in the near future.
- New Events: a workshop in November called **Traditional Christmas Decorations**. Photos of this successful event can be seen on our Facebook page under the Event link. On Dec 02, the Trust is sponsoring **Carols by Candlelight** as part of the Midnight Madness celebration in Sackville.

Please renew your membership for the coming year and consider supporting our many initiatives through a donation and through volunteering. Even with the support of government summer student employment grants, the Town of Sackville and the Crake Foundation (for which we are grateful), **member donations to the general fund are needed to support our educational activities and the expenses of operating our museums.**

Barbara Jardine, President

December 2016