



The Glass Wheatfield by artist Jacqueline Berting is home to the Regina Plains Museum. Encompassing 14,000 waist high glass wheat stalks, each piece is individually hand cut and lamp worked. This installation is a salute to the Canadian farmer and is a central focus and major visitor attraction.

Serving the Regina Community

Preserving our history for 51 years!

President's Message



On behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to acknowledge another promising year at the museum, and thank everyone whose hard work contributed to our continued existence. We thank all of our funding agencies for their help, and in particular, the City of Regina, SaskCulture, SaskLotteries, City Councillors and citizens of the city of Regina. Without their support we would not exist. Our staff and dedicated volunteers continue to provide us with many interesting and creative exhibits. Their efforts in researching new ideas and exploring funding possibilities keep us up to date and pertinent to our mission.

In the November 2011 a new Executive Director was hired. The Board extends their sincere thanks to outgoing Executive Director Christa Donaldson and welcomes Shari Sokochoff. The focus in the coming months will be to find a more permanent home that will provide us with adequate display and storage areas.

We continue to host a variety of school and public tours, and provide outreach through a variety of learning kits and reminiscent kits. In addition, we continue to provide in house and outreach programs for interested adult groups.

The Regina Plains Museum presents to residents and visitors alike the story of the unique growth and development of Saskatchewan's capital city. It is a record of who we are, where we have been, and where we are going. In 2011 the Regina Plains Museum celebrated its 51th anniversary.

We thank our forefathers for the vision and enthusiasm which created the museum. We accept the challenge of ensuring the continued success of their dream.

Rob Deglau

The Corporation

The Regina Plains Museum operates as Regina's Civic History Museum

- Through exhibiting, collecting and programming activities, the museum reflects the history of Regina.
- The collection preserves the significant cultural, social, political and economic development of the community.
- The Regina Plains Museum collaborates with other museums and organizations to limit duplication of collections and services.

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na Arts, Culture and Heritage

2011 Museum Staff

Christa Donaldson, Executive Director (outgoing)
 Shari Sokochoff, Executive Director (incoming)
 Rose Schmidlechner, Administrative Assistant

Iris Howden, Accountant
 Jim Zatulsky, Auditor

Volunteers: Peter Quiring, Rose Schmidlechner, Loretta Hawkes

We extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to our members, sponsors and volunteers for their tremendous support!

Programming for Regina Plains Museum goes beyond its walls. We can only estimate the visitor numbers in high traffic areas such as the Regina Police Station, the Steam Locomotive outside Casino Regina and other public displays.

Thanks to everyone who made 2011 another great year at the museum.

2011 Statistics	
Visitors to the exhibit space	2,745
Guided tours	23
Website visitors:	12,720
New: 58.82%	
Returning visitors: 41.18%	
Learning and Reminiscence kits loan participants	560
Mural, Scarth Street display areas and satellite exhibits	100,000+
Volunteer hours	3,000+

Programming

There are hundreds, if not thousands, of story and theme possibilities in the collection. In 2011 we focused mainly on these topics. Here are some highlights:



The Neighbourhood Series examines the unsung areas of Regina and the change and growth seen over time. Three specific installations include *Germantown*, *Warehouse District* and *North Central* which was created in a collaborative partnership with the North Central Community Association.

Digital displays:

First Peoples Urban Experience. This is a collaborative project with the North Central Community Association and Scott Collegiate. It presents a historical perspective on the Aboriginal settlement experience in Regina.



1885 Revisited shares artifacts representative of the Metis, local Regina, Military and other items and didactic of interest as related to the North West Resistance which took place on the prairies in the spring of 1885.

Photo: Smudgewalk (North Central Regina) by Greg Girard.

Ongoing displays:

- **Regina Site Lines - A Path down Regina's**

The Regina Plains Museum created: "Regina Site Lines - A Path down Regina's History", to reflect our rich and vibrant history. It presents a timeline of events, important figures relevant to understand our history and the city buildings that have endured time. The *Clothes Line* shows how changing fashion trends reflected world events and inventions. *Lines of Distinction* highlights accomplishments that put our city on the map! *Worry Lines* tell the stories of hardships etched into our collective character such as the Regina Riot and the Regina Tornado of 1912. *Punch Lines* outlines how living in Regina develops our unique way of looking at life.

Historical room displays

Exhibits with artifacts from the collection are staged as Regina's historical rooms which are small period settings representing the shops and businesses in Regina. Each display includes an array of historical artifacts from the permanent collection and are represented in the following installations: *Plains General Store, Murphy's Barbershop, McCuskers Implements Blacksmiths, Capitol Theatre, Post Office, Boudoire, and Myrt's Kitchen.*

Historical kiosks

Visionaries, Regina Neighbourhoods, Regina Tornado of 1912, Regina Riot of 1935 embracing new technology and building on the didactic and artifact installations of *The Neighbourhood Series* and *Worry Lines*, these video compilations provide a historical pictorial to share the stories of significant Regina leaders, the City and its major disasterous events.

Outreach programs: The Museum maintains and lends 11 Reminiscence and 7 Learning kits to schools, community organizations and seniors' homes in our area. The teachers guides are available for download on our web site: www.reginaplainsmuseum.com. School kits are provided without charge and include the following themes: Principles of Design, School Days, Going to Town, Heroes and Heroines, Building Community, Fun and Games and Citizenship.

Tours: Explore Downtown Historic tour featured on a special Access Communications program – this guided tour explored significant locations in the heart of the Queen City – our downtown area.

Indoor tours: Our volunteer guides: Rose Schmidlechner, Loretta Hawkes and Peter Quiring hosted a variety of indoor tours and shared their unique experiences with students.

Community and visitor services: The museum is a one-stop shop that provides information and guides tourists and local people to other attractions in our area.

Permanent Exhibits:

The **Steam Locomotive** is RPM's largest artifact and located outside Casino Regina. It is a significant landmark and a tourist attraction.

Engine #5093 built in 1918 by Montreal Locomotive Works Ltd. It is a Pacific type locomotive that is 75 feet long and weighs 287,500 lbs



Programming

Permanent Exhibits:

The Glass Wheatfield by **Jacqueline Berting** is located in the museum gallery space.

The wheatfield: a salute to Canadian Farmers contains 14,000 individually crafted waist high stalks. This remains a very popular tourist attraction

The Building Community Mural by **Sherry Farrell Racette** is located in the hallway—downstairs from the museum. It represents a non-traditional view of history, including the men, women and children in the story and development of our community. The mural is also a beginning point for the Louis Riel tours.

Volunteers: We are very grateful to the following volunteers who come in regularly to work on a variety of museum programs. Thanks to Rose Schmidlechner, Peter Quiring and Loretta Hawkes for their contributions! The RPM is an interactive museum that provides a learning environment in which the visitor is an active participant. It provides an educational component that includes guided indoor and outdoor tours. Museum activities and exhibits are created to engage our youngest citizens to senior groups. Our displays and programs focus on researching our city's history such as the Regina Neighbourhood series, the First People's Urban Experience and other digitization projects.

We share resources and collaborate with other cultural organizations such as the Regina Public Library.

Artifact Collection

The Regina Plains Museum's collection consists of over 17,000 artifacts of historical significance that are held in public trust; the largest being a steam locomotive to the smallest being the size of a lapel pin. Operating as Regina's civic museum, these artifacts include material related to Regina's economic history and the community's social and cultural life. Over the past few years 3,040 items have been deaccessioned to other museums across Saskatchewan.

Facilities: The RPM continues to operate from two locations: the downtown gallery space and the storage warehouse.

Communication

The RPM contributed regular monthly or weekly articles and media appearances. These include the Senior Living newspaper with our "Whatzit" column, the Prairie Dog, Access Communication's Talk of the Town and on location shoots at the museum. Regular communications also continued via Twitter.



Chinese fly trap "Whatzit" item.

Publications: The RPM produces four newsletters and other brochures to complement exhibits and these are circulated to our members and other cultural organizations.

Accessibility: The museum is open year-round, wheelchair accessible, does not charge admission fees and located downtown with easy access to all bus routes and tourist traffic. The museum strives to accommodate tourists and local residents throughout the year through accommodation of evening and weekend requests for programming.

Resource Library: There are over 1,700 books and periodicals available to our members for loan or to the public for research purposes in the library on an array of subjects pertaining to Regina's and Saskatchewan's history.

Websites: www.reginaplainsmuseum.com and www.reginatornado.ca - a Virtual Museum of Canada, Community Memories project that contains 113 stories and images.

Gift Shop: The sales area features Berting wheat, other glass items and locally authored books. The sales area has proven to be beneficial for the artists and the museum.



The Berting Wheatfield



A sample of what's on our website...

- Information about museum facilities
- Educational and community programming
- Downloadable teaching materials
- Current and upcoming exhibits
- Related web sites
- A chronology of Regina history
- Museum news
- Artifact images

The Regina Plains Museum was registered as a charity on December 15, 1959 and incorporated as a non-profit organization on January 4, 1960.

Regina Plains Museum Mission Statement

The Regina Plains Museum operates as the civic history museum of Regina. Through exhibiting, collecting and programming activities, the museum reflects the history of Regina. The collection preserves the significant cultural, social, political and economic development of the community. The Regina Plains Museum collaborates with other museums and organizations to limit duplication of services.

The Museum of the Future

The Museum's goal is to tell the Regina's history. It will be housed in a building worthy of being the civic museum for Regina. By recognizing the power of memory to shape present experience, the Museum of the future will be a public space for sharing, discussion, even debating social issues, providing the historical context for community concerns. Neighbours will learn together from the past and move forward with confidence into the future. The RPM will present to residents and visitors alike, the unique growth and development of Saskatchewan's capital city and all will have the opportunity to share in the creation of public culture in Regina.

Funding Agencies



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