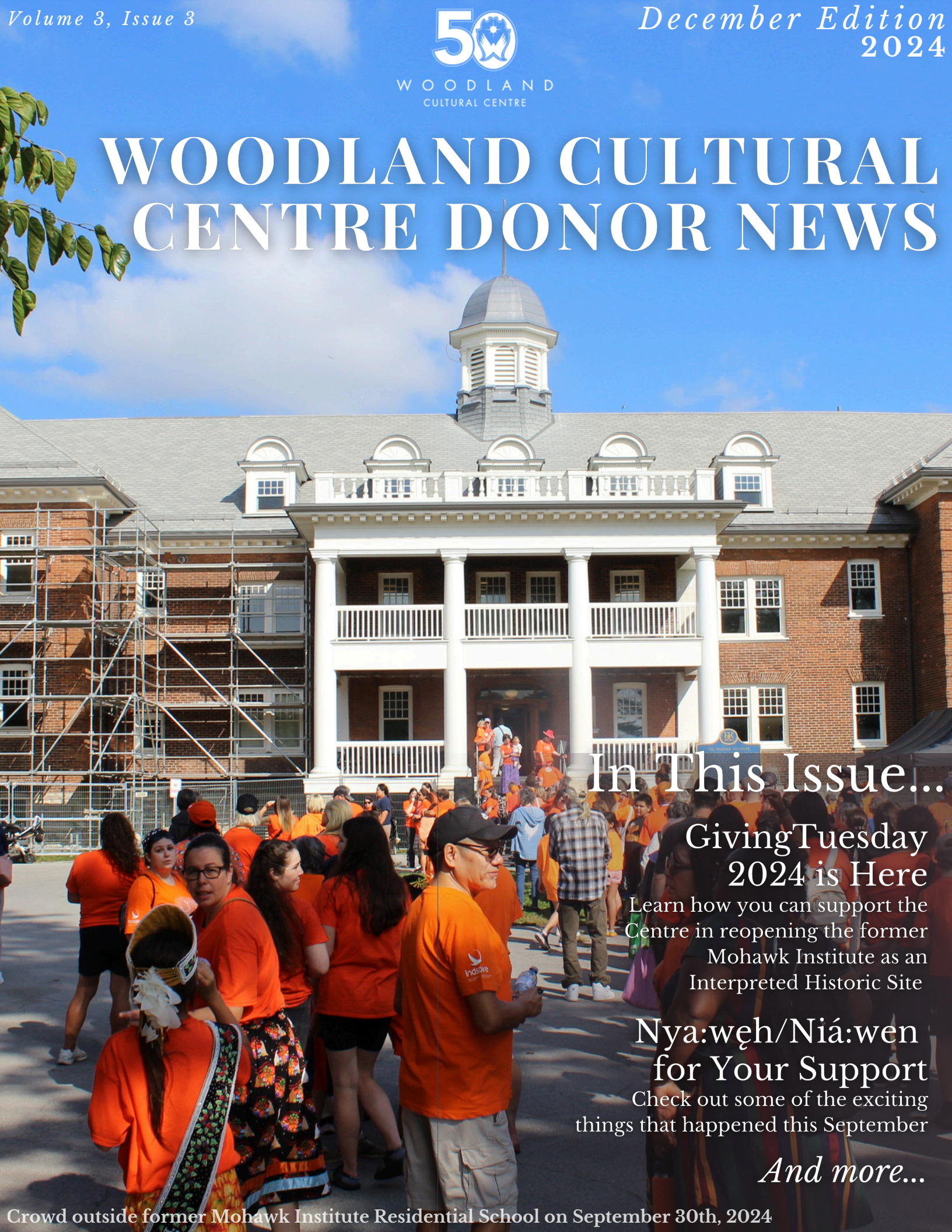


WOODLAND CULTURAL CENTRE DONOR NEWS



In This Issue...

Giving Tuesday 2024 is Here

Learn how you can support the Centre in reopening the former Mohawk Institute as an Interpreted Historic Site

Nya:wəh/Niá:wən for Your Support

Check out some of the exciting things that happened this September

And more...

Help the Woodland Cultural Centre this GivingTuesday to Raise \$15,000 to support funding needed for operational costs of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School



This year, GivingTuesday will be Tuesday December 3rd, and the Woodland Cultural Centre (WCC) is asking you to help us raise \$15,000 for the reopening of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School as an Interpretive Historic Site and Educational Resource, shedding light on a significant chapter in Canadian history. The support of our giving community is vital for the future of the Cultural Centre.



What is GivingTuesday?

GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. It's now evolved into a movement that unleashes the power of radical generosity around the world. GivingTuesday reimagines a world built upon shared humanity and generosity. Their global network collaborates year-round to inspire generosity around the world, with a common mission to build a world where generosity is part of everyday life.

A Brief History of the Former Mohawk Institute



The Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School operated in Brantford, Ontario from 1828 to 1970. It served as a boarding school for First Nations children from Six Nations, as well as other communities throughout Ontario and Quebec. It served as a key tool in the effort to assimilate First Nations children into European Christian society, and sever the continuity of culture from parent to child.

After closing in 1970, it reopened in 1972 as the Woodland Cultural Centre, a non-profit organization that serves to preserve and promote First Nations culture and heritage. As one of the few remaining Residential School buildings within Canada and the only site in Ontario offering guided tours until undergoing closure for refurbishment, the Mohawk Institute stands as a living testament to the tragic legacy of the residential school system in the country.

Image courtesy of Brant Museum and Archives

GI  **INGTUESDAY**

Donate Now!

We Need Your Help!

Since the restoration of the Mohawk Institute began in 2016, the building has transformed from a condemned structure grappling with deterioration and structural damage into a symbol of resilience and hope. This journey has been made possible through the tireless efforts of the WCC staff and Board of Directors, alongside a dedicated group of Survivors and visionary leaders from Six Nations. We have received invaluable support from community partners, all levels of government, generous donors from the individual, corporate, and non-profit sectors, as well as the skilled hands of Quartek Group architecture firm and Ultimate Construction, our general contractor.

The former Mohawk Institute is set to become a vital platform for truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation, honouring the resilience of Indigenous children who faced the harsh realities of the residential school system. WCC is committed to promoting Indigenous culture and fostering understanding through a multifaceted approach that includes historical exhibitions, community engagement, and education programming.

We are also excited to announce that for the fifth consecutive year, we are supported by The Dufresne-Ray Family Fund at Hamilton Community Foundation, which has generously pledged to match the first \$5,000 of donations received on GivingTuesday. This incredible partnership amplifies the impact of your generosity!

As we look forward to a public reopening in 2025, the WCC is navigating some unforeseen financial hurdles. Despite challenges posed by the pandemic, inflation, and logistical issues, we have made significant progress in critical areas such as elevator installation, masonry repairs, and enhancements for accessibility.

However, to sustain this momentum and secure a bright future for the Cultural Centre, we need the support of our community. Your contributions are vital to continue this important work of healing and education, ensuring that the stories of resilience and courage are not only preserved but celebrated. Together, we can make a lasting impact!



Donate Now!



2014



2019



2014



2019



2014



2019



2014



2019



2014



2019

A Message of Thanks from our Volunteer Program Coordinator

If we haven't met yet, my name is Maichina and I'm the Volunteer Program Coordinator at Woodland Cultural Centre.

Since June, I have had the pleasure of building a new volunteer program for the Centre through generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. I've worked with dedicated Woodland staff, as well as reached out to community partners, to develop a program suited for WCC's current needs and dreams for the future.

The program currently takes two streams – daily roles and special events. Since my time with Woodland, I've been tasked with recruiting special event volunteers for four separate events (including a two-day festival!) and I could not be prouder or more grateful for the community members who have stepped forward to offer their time and expertise to support WCC's endeavours in bringing meaningful events and programming celebrating Hodinohsho:ni culture to life.

At the event on September 30th for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, WCC saw about 1500 guests visit throughout the day – the largest event here since the pandemic! Our volunteers handled themselves with poise and good humour and worked hard to make sure the experiences of Woodland's guests, staff, and fellow volunteers were positive and meaningful. Our volunteers have been astounding at all our events, but I wanted to use this example to highlight how they face challenging situations yet still make the Centre and all our experiences better.

We are building a team of amazing individuals – both locally and from surrounding cities – who are drawn to and connecting with the values and mission of WCC. It is an awesome thing to watch grow, and I'm so grateful to be a part of this program. Thank you for trusting me to work with you to develop these opportunities.

Interested in Volunteering for the Woodland Cultural Centre?

As a non-profit organization, we rely on various forms of generosity to support our projects and initiatives. One way people give to Woodland Cultural Centre is through volunteering and sharing their time, skills, and knowledge with us to help in our development and delivery of daily programming in addition to planning of celebrations and special events.

[Click Here to Find Current Opportunities on our Volunteer Page!](#)



St. Joseph's Healthcare continues their partnership with Woodland Cultural Centre this September

This September the Woodland Cultural Centre development/gift shop team was invited to six different St. Joseph's Healthcare locations in Hamilton to sell orange shirts and other items. Through these outreach sales days, we were able to make \$3,824! We are so appreciative for the invitation and the continued support from St. Joseph's Healthcare.

"It has been an honour to form a supportive partnership with the Woodland Cultural Centre. We feel passionately about the need to support Woodland and its work in 'Saving the Evidence' in order to create awareness for the Truth and work toward Reconciliation. Our organization recently hosted Woodland staff on-site to sell Orange Shirts in support of the Centre in a more tangible way as well."



Donations of Securities Give donations of securities or mutual funds this holiday season



Are you wondering how you or your business can make a difference this holiday season? Do you hold securities that have increased in value in recent years?

The Woodland Cultural Centre can accept donations of securities or mutual funds through our CanadaHelps charity account! This is a great option for you if you hold securities. Did you know that when you donate directly, you don't have to pay capital gains tax and you're able to give the full value of your securities?

Please consider making a donation this year to the Woodland Cultural Centre because your contributions allow us to be the premier destination to explore, learn, and share the rich histories and contemporary cultures of the Hodinohsho:ni.

To ensure your gift qualifies for a 2024 tax receipt, complete your mutual funds donation before **December 6th** or all other securities donations before **December 13th**.

[Click Here to Make Donation](#)



SUPPORT WOODLAND

Donation Levels

- **\$100 – \$499** -will receive acknowledgement on the WCC website updated twice per year (downloadable PDF)
- **\$500 – \$1,499** -will receive invitation to screening of a special virtual tour event and Q & A session and acknowledgement in the WCC Annual Report
- **\$1,500 - \$4,999** - will receive preview invitation to exhibitions, acknowledgement on the WCC website for the fiscal year period of the donation and invitation to donor recognition event
- **\$5,000 +** - will receive a copy of WCC anniversary and other publications

DONATE NOW!

Woodland Cultural Centre needs your help to ensure that we can continue to develop and provide programming and resources to our community and the public!

Support Woodland

INTERESTED IN HOSTING A FUNDRAISER?

We can't thank our fundraisers enough for all the hard work they put into their initiatives!

[Click here to access our third-party fundraising forms!](#)

If you're interested in running a fundraiser for the Woodland Cultural Centre, please contact us at 519-759-2650 x 232 or [email here](#). We are here to support you and we can't wait to work with you!

PAYMENT DETAILS

- I have enclosed a cheque (payable to Woodland Cultural Centre)
- Donate online (www.woodlandculturalcentre.ca/donate/)

Charitable registration number: 891177990RR0001

Woodland Cultural Centre respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy. We do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to deliver services and to keep you informed and up-to-date on the activities of Woodland Cultural Centre through periodic contact. If at any time you wish to be removed from any of these lists, simply contact Woodland Cultural Centre at 519-759-2650 X 232.

With my gift of \$ _____ I am please to support the Woodland Cultural Centre

CONTACT DETAILS

NAME _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

STREET NAME _____ SUITE/APT # _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

NAME FOR RECOGNITION ON WCC WEBSITE (FOR DONORS \$100 AND UP) _____