Volume 4, Issue 1





VOODLAND CULTURAL CENTRE

WOODLAND CULTURAL CENTRE DONOR NEWS

National Indigenous History Month

Honouring Resilience, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Heritage

Volunteer Feature

Meet one of WCC's new volunteers and find out how you can join

And more...

In This Issue...

Image Courtesy of Kate Dalton, Seed Celebration

Join Us This June: Support the Woodland Cultural Centre's Campaign to Celebrate National Indigenous History Month, Honour 10 Years of Reconciliation, and Sustain Indigenous Education and Culture — Your Donation Makes a Difference!



Join Us in Building a Future of Reconciliation

Your donation will directly fund the operational costs needed to sustain and expand these community-led programs, helping Indigenous voices be heard, languages revitalized, and culture preserved. As we honour Survivors and walk the path toward truth and reconciliation, your support is more important than ever. The Woodland Cultural Centre is proud to launch its annual fundraising campaign this June, in honour of **National Indigenous History Month** and the **10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)**. This campaign is dedicated to supporting the Centre's vital programs and operations, which are essential for advancing Indigenous education, language revitalization, and cultural preservation across Southern Ontario and beyond.

While the historic Mohawk Institute Residential School building continues its journey of restoration, the ongoing operation of WCC's programs remains crucial. Your generous support will enable us to deliver innovative education initiatives, artistic programs, language revitalization efforts, and community events that celebrate and sustain Indigenous heritage.



How You Can Help

Your donations will support:

- Education and Public Programs:
 - Our department creates engaging virtual and in-person programs, exhibitions, family activities, and educational curricula. We are committed to centering Indigenous voices and leadership in all our work, fostering understanding, healing, and reconciliation.
- Dwadwęnagá:da:t Language Centre (DLC):
 - Dedicated to revitalizing First Nations languages, the DLC collaborates with speakers, learners, Knowledge Keepers, and teachers to develop community resources and support grassroots language programs, including immersion initiatives.



- Museum and Collections:
 - Our museum holds over 50,000 artifacts of national significance, used for research, exhibitions, and community engagement helping to shape cultural understanding across generations.
- Resource Library:
 - Since 1972, our library has served as a hub for research and learning. We are digitizing our archives to make our collections more accessible to all.



How to Donate

Visit <u>woodlandculturalcentre.ca</u> to make a secure online donation. Follow us on social media to stay updated on upcoming events, artist showcases, and more.

Together, we can ensure that Indigenous stories are shared, traditions are preserved, and reconciliation continues to grow. Your support makes all of this possible.

Additional Ways to Support WCC



Bulk Orders are now Open for September!

The Woodland Cultural Centre is now accepting bulk orders for 2025 of orange t-shirts, long-sleeve shirts, and sweaters.

Show your support for residential school Survivors and reconciliation with the knowledge that the proceeds from your purchase will benefit the Woodland Cultural Centre to run the former Mohawk Institute as a space of cultural interpretation and Indigenous resilience.

<u>Click here to access the order form and learn more!</u>

Or scan here!



Thanks to our Supporters

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Woodland Cultural Centre on April 12, 2025, to celebrate our donors. Your support makes our work possible, and we are truly grateful for your generosity.

A special thank you to City of Brantford Mayor Kevin Davis, City of Brantford MPP Will Bouma, and representatives from the Ontario Arts Council for their presence and ongoing support. Your commitment to our community and cultural initiatives is deeply appreciated.

We also want to express our gratitude to all our donors and partners who continue to champion the mission of the Woodland Cultural Centre.

Thank you for being part of this special evening. Niá:wen/Nyá:węh!





Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Eleonora

In August 2024, Woodland Cultural Centre put out a call for volunteers for its new volunteer program and to spread awareness about departmental opportunities.

Intrigued by First Nations land disputes around the former Arrowdale golf course in Brantford, Eleonora was inspired to learn more about the Indigenous matters in the area. She wanted to get plugged into community and get a sense of place, so she responded to Woodland's call and has been volunteering with the Centre since November.

Bright and personable, Eleonora has a rich history in volunteerism. She began her volunteer journey with her family at church when she was younger and continued her charitable efforts throughout her life. Now, she supports staff with daily roles in her volunteer work at WCC.



"I think it's just part of how I grew up," she says, "It feels odd when it's not part of my routine."

Eleonora's routine at the Centre involves coming in on Thursday afternoons to spend time in the Education Department. Once settled in, she analyzes the tasks that need to be done and sets out to complete as much as she can. Mostly she prepares craft kits for tour groups.

"It's calming and there's something kind of nice about just going in and doing my little crafts," she says.

The dedicated efforts that Eleonora gives to the Centre relieves some of the workload for staff in the Education Department so that they can then focus their energies on other endeavours to benefit the Centre. Eleonora feels "good" about helping the department, but she also points out that she likes that there is some sort of skill involved with volunteering.

A challenge of volunteering at the Centre is finding time in typical workweek hours to commit to support the daily roles, but Eleonora says, if you can find the time, do it. The volunteer program works hard to be flexible and accessible for volunteers and will engage with different schedules to find a match at the Centre.

More About Eleonora

Fun fact: She started first grade in Prague, Czech Republic.

A favourite film: The Fifth Element. Favourite food: Burek with a side of Balkan yogurt and fire-roasted red bell peppers. What she's reading: The Golem and the Jinni by

Helene Wecker **A future goal:** To collaborate on an art project with a fellow visual artist or creative she respects. For more information about WCC's volunteer program and opportunities, please visit the website at <u>Volunteer - Woodland Cultural</u> <u>Centre - Brantford, ON</u> or reach out to <u>volunteer@woodlandculturalcentre.ca</u>.



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!

<u>Click here to access our third-party</u> <u>fundraising forms!</u>

If you're interested in running a fundraiser for the Woodland Cultural Centre, please contact us at 519-759-2650 x 232 or <u>email</u> <u>here</u>.

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	