



COMMUNITY

## Public invited to become part of Olde Gaol Museum's upcoming COVID-19 exhibit

Kawartha Lakes residents and businesses invited to send in letters describing their thoughts, difficulties and/or opportunities that have been presented during the COVID-19 pandemic

By [This Week](#) Kawartha Lakes This Week  
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Some people might be just as happy to forget the COVID-19 pandemic ever happened, but the Victoria County Historical Society is hoping more will want to preserve the experience for future generations.

The Olde Gaol Museum has launched an initiative to collect COVID-19 stories from

residents and businesses alike.

This initiative asks residents and businesses, whether they live in Fenelon Falls, Bobcaygeon, Kirkfield, Omemee or Lindsay, to send the museum a letter describing their thoughts on the pandemic and the difficulties or opportunities that it has presented.

Everyone is encouraged to include photos, complete with information identifying individuals and any other relevant details, to go with their stories.

“We want to guarantee for future local researchers in 25 or 50 years that we have sources available to them that draw on personal lived experiences and thoughts on the pandemic that go beyond a standard news article,” explains Zac Miller, vice-president of the Society which operates the museum.

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“We have a responsibility to Kawartha Lakes that we preserve our residents’ stories and memories from 2020 and collecting it presently makes sense.”

The initiative will be exhibited in 2022 with the goal of collecting 250 letters and is not limited to any one person. It is encouraged that everyone send in a letter to guarantee a wide variety of perspectives and experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic in Kawartha Lakes.

Some ideas for content include thoughts on the pandemic and how life has changed since March 2020. Students are invited to share their experiences of online learning and how it impacted their future directions. Essential and frontline workers are also encouraged to take part, sharing how their work and community changed during each of the pandemic waves.

To respect privacy, participants are asked to only sign their name to their letter(s) and the community in which they reside. Letters are to be addressed to the Olde

Gaol Museum, 50 Victoria Ave., N., Lindsay, ON, K9V 6H7. All letters and photographs received by the Olde Gaol Museum will become property of the museum and accessioned into the permanent collection.

For more detailed information, please visit [www.oldegaolmuseum.ca/covid19](http://www.oldegaolmuseum.ca/covid19).

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