

### SIR SANDFORD FLEMING

# A Life Worth Celebrating

Please join us for a Sesquicentennial Celebration of Sir Sandford Fleming's arrival in our region.

June 9 - 23, 1996



Canada's first adhesive postage stamp, the Threepenny Beaver, designed by Fleming in 1851.



Sir Sandford Fleming (seated, right) as part of the Intercontinental Railway Group.

### **BROAD HORIZONS - HUGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Sandford Fleming arrived in this region, travelling by way of Quebec City and Montreal to Kingston, and continuing by boat to what he described as "a nice healthy little town", Cobourg. The 18-year-old Sandford and his older brother, David, arrived in Peterborough by horse-drawn cart on June 17 1845, where Sandford made his home with Dr. and Mrs. John Hutchison.

Sandford Fleming contributed much to this area. His drawings and maps accurately depict the community as it was in the mid-1800s, and his copious diaries provide enlightening detail. In turn, this community enriched his life - his wife Jeannie Hall, whom he married in 1855, was a Peterborough native.

But Fleming was always searching for broader horizons and greater challenges. His keen intelligence and scientific and artistic ability involved him in many significant accomplishments, which included:

Surveys and maps of the harbour of Toronto, the towns of Peterborough and Cobourg, and the Grand Trunk, Ontario, Simcoe and Huron railways.

Design of a working prototype of an in-line skate in 1848.

Foundation of the Royal Canadian Institute in Toronto in 1849.

Design of Canada's first adhesive postage stamp, the Threepenny Beaver, in 1851.

Appointment as Chief Engineer of the Northern Railway in 1855.

Proposal for a coast to coast railway line spanning "British North America" in 1858.

Appointment as sole engineer to supervise the survey of the proposed Intercolonial Railway, linking the Maritime Provinces with Quebec. Advocacy of iron railway bridges over wooden, for safety and durability.

Simultaneous supervision of the surveys of both the Intercolonial and Canadian Pacific Railway lines between 1872 and 1876.

Establishment of Universal Standard Time, which he recommended to the Royal Canadian Institute in 1879, and which was adopted universally in 1884.

Appointment as Chancellor of Queen's University in 1880. Fleming held this position for 35 years, until his death.

Appointment to the Board of Directors of Canadian Pacific. Fleming was present when Donald A. Smith drove in the "last spike" in 1885.

Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1887.

Knighthood by Queen Victoria in 1897 as part of her Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Advocacy of a submarine cable which would link all the nations of the British Empire by telegraph. Pacific Cable was finally completed in 1902.

Naming of Peterborough's community college in his honour. Sir Sandford Fleming College was established in 1967.



Fleming realized a lifelong dream when Pacific Cable connected the British Empire by telegraph in 1902.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday June 9, 2 p.m.
Sir Sandford Fleming arrives at
Cobourg Harbour
Greeted by Mayor Joan Chalovich and
Town Crier, Tom McMillan

Fleming is piped from Cobourg Marina to Victoria Hall for a reception at the Art Gallery of Northumberland

Monday June 10, 10.30 a.m.

Fleming visits history students at Cobourg

District Collegiate West

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Monday June 10, 12.15 p.m. - 1.45 p.m. Lunch with Sir Sandford Fleming at "The Oasis" restaurant King St., Cobourg

Monday June 10, 2 p.m. Fleming visits students at St. Mary's High School, Cobourg

Thursday June 13, 12.15 p.m. - 1.45 p.m. Lunch with Sir Sandford Fleming at "The Matterhorn" Restaurant King St. Cobourg

Thursday June 13, 2.15 p.m.
Fleming visits students at
Sir Sandford Fleming College, Cobourg

Thursday, June 13, 7.30 p.m. Slide show "Ocean to Ocean" tells the story of Fleming's life

Sir Sandford Fleming College, Cobourg

Friday June 14, Noon Sir Sandford Fleming is the special guest of the Cobourg Rotary Club

Saturday June 15, 10 a.m. In-line skate safety rodeo Location TBA, Cobourg

Saturday June 14, Noon Sir Sandford Fleming departs for Peterborough by horse-drawn cart

more events on other side . . .



This Canadian Pacific Railway survey party is typical of those that Fleming would have visited as supervising engineer of the coast-to-coast CP survey.

Saturday June 15, Noon Official Opening and Exhibit: "Fleming the Surveyor" Kent Place Mall, Lindsay

Saturday June 15, Noon

Exhibit: "Surveying - Old and New" 'Stroll around' by Sir Sandford Fleming and Queen Victoria Victoria Park, Lindsay

Sunday June 16, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Official Opening Ceremonies with
Mayor Jack Doris
Rotary Park, Peterborough

Tuesday June 18, 1.30 p.m. Walking Tour and Afternoon Tea Hutchison House, Peterborough

Tuesday June 19, 6.30 p.m.
In-line Skate Party
The Bubble, Sir Sandford Fleming College,
Lindsay

Wednesday June 19, 7 p.m. Walking Tour Hutchison House, Peterborough Thursday June 20, 1.30 p.m. Walking Tour and Afternoon Tea Hutchison House

Thursday June 20, 7.30 p.m.
Slide show and lecture:
"The Unfolding of Canada"
Local historian Bob Bowley uses stamps to tell the story of Fleming
Hutchison House, Peterborough

Thursday, June 20, 7.30 p.m.
Slide presentation: "Ocean to Ocean" tells the story of Fleming's life
Kent Street Mall, Lindsay

Friday June 21 - Sunday June 23
Model train exhibit and demonstration
Greater Peterborough Chamber of
Commerce

The Old Station, Peterborough

Saturday June 22, 1.30, 2.30 and 3.30 p.m. Readings from Sir Sandford Fleming's diaries, followed by Scottish Tea Hutchison House, Peterborough



Fleming was an outspoken, and successful, advocate of iron trestles over wooden, for Canada's railway bridges.

Sunday June 23, 1 - 4 p.m. Scottish Tea at Hutchison House

Sunday, June 23, 2.30 p.m.

Re-enactment of "The Last Spike".

Be a part of the picture as the community stages a tableau of the famous photograph of Donald A. Smith driving in the last spike for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Old Station (adjacent to the Chamber of Commerce), Peterborough

## ONGOING EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

"Fleming the Man and his Family"
May 5 through October

Photographs, exhibits, extracts from Fleming's diaries and his own sketches help us to understand Fleming as a person, and as a committed family man. Hutchison House, Peterborough

"Cobourg in the time of Sir Sandford Fleming" June 1 - 23

This interesting exhibit enlightens us on what day-to-day life was like in the time of Sir Sandford Fleming.

Art Gallery of Northumberland,

Victoria Hall, Cobourg

"With Compass and Chain" June 15 - 22

Surveying equipment and artifacts typical of the Fleming era

Kent Street Mall, Lindsay

## A DISTINGUISHED CANADIAN

From his arrival in this country in 1845 until his death in Halifax in 1915, Sandford Fleming left his distinguished mark on the life and development of Canada.

This summer, we invite you to help us celebrate the life of this extraordinary Canadian. He was an engineer, a surveyor, an inventor, a scholar, an artist, a historian, a romantic and, unabashedly, a warm and sentimental family man.

Throughout the communities of Peterborough, Lindsay and Cobourg there will be walking tours, diary readings, re-enactments, exhibits of surveying, museum exhibits, lectures, essay contests, in-line skating events and much more.

An actor portraying Sir Sandford Fleming will visit area schools, service clubs, shopping districts, restaurants and, yes, his namesake, Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Sir Sandford Fleming Sesquicentennial

Sunday June 9 - Saturday June 23 1996



Sir Sandford Fleming as Chancellor of Queen's University in Kingston, a position which he held for 35 years until his death in 1915.



The father of nine children (six of whom survived childhood), and many grandchildren, Sir Sandford Fleming was a devoted family man.

### IN PETERBOROUGH:

 Paul Goddard
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 Stephanie Ford-Forrester
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For more information about the *Fleming*Sesquicentennial, please contact:

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### IN LINDSAY:

Barbara Truax (705) 324 6257 Lorraine Petzold (705) 799 6672 \_\_\_\_\_\_

IN COBOURG:

At the age of 21, Sandford Fleming designed this prototype of an in-line skate, which he tested and pronounced "altogether

Cath Oberholtzer

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Chamber of Commerce

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