

# Efforts to build museum continue

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Visions Canada

Visions Canada is a scholastic awards program through the Halton District School Board and the Halton Catholic School Board. Students submit projects that reflect some part of Canada and are judged by the boards according to grade level. The projects can be in the form of models, essays, or even more unique items such as quilts. An awards evening is held in June and winners from each grade level are awarded Canadian coin sets. Established in 1979, the program is a favourite with students.

One of the current exhibits is titled 'Behind the Scenes: Collections Storage' and is set up on the third floor of the Alexander Barn. The artifacts needed to be moved to a safe location when renovations began for Phase 1. The museum decided to make the most of the situation and has succeeded in giving the public a rare glimpse of what goes on when items are in storage. The exhibit demonstrates the importance

of factors such as temperature, humidity, light and cleanliness in storage environments. It also emphasizes the museum's need for the artifact centre, which is Phase 2.

## Phases of development

Fundraising for Phase 2, the building of the artifact centre that will house the collection of 35,000 pieces of history, is currently underway.

The collection is presently stored in three off-site buildings and the goal is to unite the items, the first time since the 1970s, under one roof where they can be viewed by visitors and be properly displayed and cared for.

"The artifact centre will be a showcase for Halton's collection," said Ms Twitchel. "We are hoping to have it completed within three years and then Phase 3 will be the restoration of the Alexander Farmhouse with Phase 4 being the renovations to the 'Piggery Building'."

All of these projects cost millions of dollars (Phase 1 cost \$1.87 million) and, in

order to raise funds, the annual auction and open house is scheduled for Saturday, May 8. There will be both silent and live auctions, a barbecue lunch, wine tasting and tours of the museum.

The auction items vary greatly from dinners for two at local restaurants and gift certificates to decorative items like vases and artwork. Anyone can donate items and tax receipts will be issued.

"We would appreciate anything people would like to donate," said Ms Twitchel. "We accept mostly new items like books, children's toys, landscape plants and shrubs, gift baskets and artwork. The deadline for donations is May 4 because the items need to be added to the catalogue."

The Halton Region Museum is open daily from noon to 5 p.m. from Victoria Day weekend in May to Thanksgiving weekend. Admission costs \$4, or \$2.75 for children five to 14 years of age and \$3.25 for children four years of age and under are admitted free.

For more information about Halton Region Museum, call (905) 875-2200.

# CAIS deadline extended to June

The federal and Ontario governments have extended the Ontario 2003 and 2004 Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program deadline to June 30.

"The deadline extension means that farmers now have an opportunity to obtain margin coverage for 2003 and 2004, and to access government programs that require enrollment in the CAIS program," said Ontario Federation of Agriculture President Ron Bonnett.

Steve Peters, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, said the agri-food industry plays an important role in Ontario's economy.

"We want as many Ontario farmers as possible to have an opportunity to participate in the new CAIS program and are encouraging them to apply as soon as possible," Mr. Peters said.

The CAIS program allows Ontario farmers to protect their operations from income declines beyond their control. CAIS directs government funds to producers by combining stabilization assistance and disaster assistance into one program.

"The CAIS program will provide much-needed help for producers who may experience losses in farm income," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Bob Speller. "I certainly encourage producers to participate."

By June 30, farmers must complete and submit a CAIS program application form (and any other required forms) and deposit the minimum account balance as outlined in the producer's Deposit Options Notice into their CAIS program accounts.

For application forms and more detailed information on the CAIS program, visit the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Web site at [www.omaf.gov.on.ca](http://www.omaf.gov.on.ca) or call the CAIS program administration toll-free at 1-877-838-5144.

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contract. After this period interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. †0% Purchase Financing/48 months is available on new 2004 MPV, Tribute and B-Series Truck. Finance examples: for \$10,000 at 0% Purchase Financing the monthly payment is \$208.33 for 48 months, C.O.B. is \$0 for a total of \$10,000. Other finance rates available. \*Offers available on new 2004 MPV GX, 2004 Tribute DX-V6 2WD and 2004 B3000 Dual Sport Cab Plus retail leases only. For other models see your dealer for details. Offers cannot be combined. Lease payment includes freight and P.D.E. of \$1,125 for trucks. Total lease obligation for the 2004 MPV GX (UAXZ74CC00) is \$18,648 including down payment or equivalent trade of \$4,595. Total lease obligation for the 2004 Tribute DX-V6 2WD (WSDZ74A000) is \$16,398 including down payment or equivalent trade of \$4,695. Total lease obligation for the 2004 B3000 Dual Sport Cab Plus (XCKB54A000) is \$14,348 including down payment or equivalent trade of \$4,995. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies. 25,000 km leases also available. License, insurance, registration, taxes and other dealer charges extra. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order may be necessary. Offers available from March 8, 2004 for a limited time only. Lease and Finance O.A.C. for qualified customers only. See your dealer for details. † Tests conducted on the 2004 Mazda MPV. Highest rating possible for front driver, passenger, side and rear impact protection by the U.S. NHTSA. †† National Post, Driver's Edge, February 14, 2003. ††† A.L.A.M.C. 1987-2003

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