



Volume 1 | Issue 2 | Fall 2025 Newsletter

Strathma is your community museum—preserving local history through exhibits, archives, and hands-on programs for all ages!

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OPENING NOTE

BY DEB KRHAN - PRESIDENT

As we move into the fall and winter season, the Board of Directors is proud to see Strathma thriving with programs, exhibits, and community events. From Spooky Strathma to holiday celebrations, these months highlight the creativity and dedication of our staff and volunteers. Thank you for your continued support as we close out 2025 with a strong and vibrant season.



Quick Reference Guide

Click the link below for a one-page summary of the newsletter. You can download and print to easily reference throughout the season!

[Click to View](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

In-House Events

Sherwood Heights Walking Tour

September 4, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

A 2.5 km guided walking tour which takes you through the original neighbourhood of Sherwood Heights. Hear fascinating stories behind the community's earliest homes and residents. Free (by donation), with [pre-registration](#) required.

Trails and Rails

September 6, 2:00PM - 3:00PM

Explore Strathcona County's transportation evolution—from Indigenous trails to local railway. Join Strathma and Strathcona County Library for an interactive presentation including the chance to visit the museum exhibit space. See the Strathcona County Library website to [register](#) for this collaborative event.

Outreach Events

Savour Strathcona

September 7

Historic Smeltzer House Tours

September 14

Museum at the Market

November 12

Christmas at the Heartland

November 29

Christmas in the County

December 6

Winterfest

December 6

Winter Play Days

December 18

Strathma Saturdays

Join us every Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM for free drop-in programming designed for kids of all ages!

September: The Railway

October: Alice in Wonderland

November: First Responders

December: Christmas Pickle



Coffee Speaker Series

Ehren Ackerman

September 24, 10:30AM - 12:00PM

Guest Speaker and local Paranormal Expert, Ehren Ackerman, will be talking all things paranormal and spooky here in Strathcona County.

Riley Tookey

November 26, 10:30AM - 12:00PM

Join Riley Tookey of Men's Shed Strathcona and learn about the amazing work they do supporting our community, from building projects (including some here at the museum!) to providing a sense of purpose and friendship for retired men.

Trivia Night Series

Night at the Museum

September 25, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Spooky Trivia Night

October 30, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

40s, 50s, 60s, Pop Culture

November 27, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Trivia Nights Sponsored by:

BROWNS
SOCIALHOUSE
restaurant . bar . socialize

SPOOKY STRATHMA EVENTS

Ticketed Events

Spooky Paint Night

October 1, 7:00PM - 10:00PM

We are hosting a Spooky Paint Night with local artist Andrea Krahn. She will be guiding participants step-by-step to create a spooky Halloween painting to take home with you.

Fairytale Writing Workshop

October 11, 1:30PM - 3:30PM

Strathma is teaming up with the [Writers Foundation of Strathcona County](#) for a fairytale inspired workshop! Explore the origins and hidden messages of beloved tales, then create your own story in this magical afternoon of writing fun.

Spooky Adult Party

October 18, 7:00PM - 10:00PM

Go down the rabbit hole with Spooky Strathma! Join us for an 18+ immersive escape room activity, paired with snacks, drinks, and a few twists & turns.

Spooky All-Ages Parties

October 24 & 25, 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Join Spooky Strathma for a fantastical family-friendly party! Snacks, dancing, costume contests, there's something for everyone down the rabbit hole!

Admission by Donation

Spooky Scavenger Hunt

Drop-In Activities Throughout October

Visit the museum anytime to embark on our all-ages Alice in Wonderland scavenger hunt. Solve curious clues, explore enchanting exhibits, and let your imagination run wild—wonder awaits around every corner!

Spooky Trivia Night

October 30, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Celebrate Halloween with a night of eerie questions covering paranormal mysteries and haunting traditions. Costumes encouraged, chills guaranteed! First prize sponsored by Brown's Social Hall Salisbusy Gate.

Check out our [Spooky Strathma](#) page for more information and for registration to ticketed events.



NEW WORKSHOP SERIES

This workshop series begins in December with exact dates and times to be announced.

See [Workshop Series](#) page to learn more.

Caring for Textiles:
Storing, Handling &
Basic Repairs

Caring for Your
Antiques: Objects &
Everyday Heirlooms

Preserving & Digitizing
Paper and Photographs

Caring for Taxidermy:
Cleaning & Handling
Tips

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

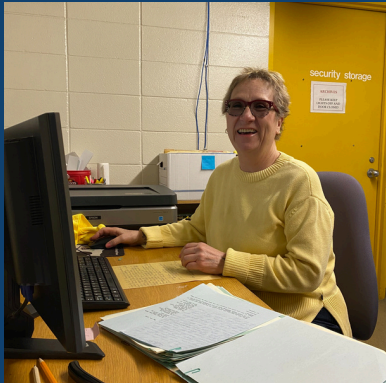
GEMMA PALMER - EDUCATION ASSISTANT

Ever since she visited the Royal Alberta Museum at just 5 years old, Gemma knew she wanted to work in museums one day. She has been an educator here at Strathma for a little over a year now, currently completing a Bachelor of Arts in Science, Technology and Society at the University of Alberta. Her research primarily focuses on the history of science and our relationship with the environment through time and cultures.



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

DONNA CHAPUT - ARCHIVES VOLUNTEER



Donna has been volunteering at the museum for a little over a year now. She has always had a love for history and museums, so when she retired, she figured Strathma would be the perfect place to spend some time and give back. Donna usually helps out on Mondays with file digitization, document scanning, and other miscellaneous tasks.

One of the things she enjoys most is chatting with the staff, fellow volunteers, and visitors while she works. It makes her day fly by! Donna worked in administrative support for the RCMP for 21 years before retiring, and she has mentioned that being back in an office setting has been really nice. Ironically, her very first boss at the RCMP had his first posting right here before it turned into a museum, back when this place was still an active detachment. Outside of the museum, Donna loves to spend time with her family—specifically her kids and grandkids. They enjoy spending time riding bikes, going to the park, and doing activities together.

Want to Join the Volunteer Team?

At the moment, all of our volunteer positions are filled—thank you to everyone who's stepped up to be part of our team!

We're always grateful for the incredible support our volunteers provide, from tending our gardens to assisting with collections and welcoming guests.

We encourage you to check our [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page for future opportunities—we'll share openings as they become available!



RECENT ACQUISITIONS

The Strathcona County Museum & Archives is preparing an exciting future exhibit celebrating the style, innovation, and design of the mid-century modern era! We are looking for household items from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, including appliances, furniture, décor, and everyday gadgets. Whether it's a retro blender, a bold patterned chair, or a quirky kitchen tool, your pieces could help tell the story of this vibrant period in history. Some key items of interest include an oven, dining room set, lamps, and kitchen gadgets. If you own items from this era and would be interested in loaning or donating them for the exhibit, please visit the Collections Donation page on our website. Help us bring the past to life and share the unique charm of mid-century modern design with our community!

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

We're thrilled to announce that Stage 2 of our Visitation Room exhibit will be completed this fall! This immersive new addition invites visitors to enter a thoughtfully recreated RCMP visitation room, offering a firsthand look at the early days of law enforcement in our region. Did you know our museum building was originally the site of Strathcona County's first RCMP detachment? This exhibit brings that legacy to life, highlighting the progression of our local RCMP and the important role it played in shaping our community.



RESEARCH

Interested in exploring the roots of Strathcona County? Our museum and archives are open to anyone curious about the stories that shaped our community.

Visitors are welcome to browse our on-site library, which offers a wide selection of historical resources. If you're working on a more detailed project, you can reserve time in our Reference Library for individual research. Archival materials are also available upon request—just let us know in advance so we can prepare them for you. If you need help with a specific topic, you can submit a research request through our website.

For more information see our [Research Page](#)!

MORE THAN A MUSEUM VISIT

Did you know Strathma offers more than just exhibits and drop-in visits? We love being part of your special moments and community gatherings.

Birthday Parties: Celebrate with a unique, history-inspired experience.

Room & Facility Rentals: A distinctive setting for meetings, workshops, or family gatherings.

Group & Guided Tours: Perfect for schools, clubs, or community groups wanting a deeper dive into local history.

Guest Speakers: Our team can bring history to life at your event.

Whether you're planning a celebration, organizing a group outing, or looking for a speaker, Strathma has options to fit. Reach out to us—we'd be happy to help make your event memorable.

To make a booking of any kind, please reach out to Joanna by email at education@strathma.ca!

WINTER HOURS

Beginning September 1

Monday.....	closed
Tuesday.....	closed
Wednesday.....	10am-4pm
Thursday.....	1pm-8pm
Friday.....	10am-4pm
Saturday.....	10am-4pm
Sunday.....	closed



PARTNER WITH STRATHMA

PRESERVE OUR PAST, INSPIRE THE FUTURE

Support local history, hands-on learning, and inclusive programs by becoming a sponsor. Your partnership helps us engage the community and share Strathcona County's heritage for generations to come.

Email us at comms@strathma.ca to learn more!

Stay tuned for the next
edition of The Strathma
Snapshot in January!



913 Ash St. Sherwood Park



Strathma.ca



780.467.8189

STRATHCONA COUNTY
**MUSEUM
&
ARCHIVES**



STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Strathma is an independent
nonprofit, proudly partnered
with and partially funded by
Strathcona County.