



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE GATINEAU

May 1988 NEWSLETTER

Coming Events:

July 1: Gala Canada Day Celebration

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

at the

Historical Museum of the Gatineau

fiddlers, dancers, food

August 13: Annual Auction

West Hull Community Centre

flea market, antiques and collectibles, food

Last Meeting

For two reasons, no one who heard **Terrance Manuel** speak about heraldry will soon forget that meeting.

Partly, it was largely conducted in the dark during the province's worst power blackout in years. More important, though slides were a no-show, it was an absorbing glance into mysterious realms.

Major Manuel dwelt on the colour that heraldry brings into our lives through the use of symbols to convey graphically the history or geography or role of people and institutions. In the past 30 years there had been a large increase in Canadian requests for arms, especially for institutions, but all had still to be handled in Britain. Since France became a republic, no arms had been issued, and thus few Québec heraldic symbols were in evidence. Major Manuel was optimistic that the long-sought Canadian counterpart would soon be established, thus creating a new boom in heraldry in French-speaking as well as English-speaking Canada.

Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau

A small but determined group of Society

members met recently to discuss the potential for a new initiative of the Society to be known as "The Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau".

The idea for a 'Friends' type of support group is not new. Locally, there exists a number of such organizations. The "Friends of the National Gallery", for example, have been around for some thirty years while the "Friends of the Canadian Museum of Civilization" is a relative newcomer. This type of support group has become so established that there is now an international association of 'Friends of' societies. Society members Joann Macdonald and Attie Von Wendt found the local 'Friends' groups most willing to share their expertise and very supportive of our efforts.

The Historical Society of the Gatineau needs to establish a group of 'Friends' to ensure the continued success of the Society's museum in Wakefield. The Historical Museum of the Gatineau includes: the Maclaren House, which holds the Society's collection of antiques and valuables, the old Wakefield Mill, which the Society manages under contract to the NCC, the pioneer cemetery on the hill above the Maclaren House and the grounds surrounding the complex.

The 'Friends' would assist the museum through annual membership fees, donations and fund-raising activities, volunteer services and membership development. Perhaps more importantly, the 'Friends' would be a visible reminder to all that the community stands firmly behind the preservation of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau.

The Society plans to officially launch its "Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau" campaign at the gala Canada Day celebration at the Museum, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on July 1. Buttons, balloons, dancers and fid-

dlers will help celebrate the fact that 1988 is the 150th anniversary of the Mill. The "Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau" want to ensure that the Mill prospers as an integral part of our museum for, at least, another 150 years.

Watch next month's newsletter for details on how you can become a 'Friend' and ensure that our community will continue to enjoy the Historical Museum of the Gatineau.

New Members

The Society is pleased to welcome as new members: **J. William McGowan; Shirley Moffatt; Barry Nichol; Allan Richens; Astrid Von Wendt; Hugh Nelson and Gary Sealey.**

New Garden for Maclaren House

We will soon have yet another reason to visit the Historical Museum of the Gatineau.

The Gatineau Valley Gardeners have designed a turn-of-the-century garden for the front of Maclaren House. The garden will be planted on May 26 with all materials and labour contrib-

uted by the Gatineau Valley Gardeners. While this is the work of many, we are particularly grateful to **Marilyn Light, Jan Gray and Dianne Renault** for coordinating this beautiful addition to our museum.

Cemetery Tidy-Up

HSG Co-president **Charles Landon** spent a busy day cleaning up around the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery with the help of a local scout troop.

Thanks to Rene Chartrand, Graham Lockhead and their hard-working scouts for such a good deed.

March Heritage Festival

Saturday, June 25th

2:00 - 8:00 pm

at

Pinhey's Point (Horaceville)

Entertainment, food, historical displays,
children's activities

Information: Katherine Watson, 592-4281



Wakefield Mill Wakefield, Quebec May 1988 Elizabeth Macfie