



TORONTO

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT

The Village at Black Creek Collections Management and Modernization



OVERVIEW

This initiative strengthens TRCA's stewardship of its significant Indigenous and historical artifact collections, while preserving the 42 heritage buildings that form a cornerstone of Toronto's cultural heritage. Funding will support a dedicated Collections Care Specialist, artifact digitization, programming enhancements, and the ongoing preservation of historical structures and landscapes.

OBJECTIVES

Strengthening stewardship of TRCA's Indigenous and historical collections will protect artifacts, enhance access, and support richer, knowledge driven storytelling. Investments in digitization, conservation, specialized staff, and building preservation ensure long term care. The objective is to modernize preservation systems and expand accessibility while supporting heritage and Indigenous education.

BENEFITING STAKEHOLDERS

- Current and future residents of Toronto region (as their material culture is safeguarded in perpetuity)
- Students and academic researchers
- Residents of, and tourists to, Toronto region
- Residents of local Neighbourhood Improvement Areas. Increased traffic to neighbourhood results in increased use of local services.

EXPECTED IMPACT

The initiative will protect irreplaceable artifacts and historic buildings, expand access through digital collections, and enable more robust educational programming and storytelling.

Enhanced collections care will improve preservation standards, support culturally appropriate stewardship, and ensure long term accessibility of the region's historical resources.

BUDGET & FUNDING

Estimated Total Cost (\$000's): \$900,000 annually

- \$600 in collections & operations staffing
- \$300 in services and supplies to care for 50K artifacts, make collection virtually accessible, and maintain TRCA's collection of 42 heritage buildings.

Possible Funding Sources:

- City of Toronto, corporate sponsors, private donors, grants

OWNERSHIP

TRCA



KEY PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Artifact Collection Care

High Priority



Update care for artifact collection.

Heritage Building Restoration

High Priority



Provide essential restoration work for TRCA's 42 historic buildings.

Digital Access

Make TRCA's collection of 50,000 historical artifacts accessible virtually to students and the public.

Collections Care Expertise

Hire a cultural heritage professional to oversee and enhance collections care.

Work to Date

- Digitization of collection initiated
- Preventative conservation applied to selected artifacts annually
- Selected heritage buildings receive ongoing repairs to maintain safety

RISKS IF UNFUNDED

Social: Artifact collection becomes inaccessible to students and the public, reducing opportunities for learning, engagement, and connection to Toronto's history.

Financial / Economic: Heritage buildings deteriorate and become unsafe, leading to increased repair costs or potential loss of irreplaceable infrastructure.

Deferred Action Risk: Artifact collection falls into disrepair and damaged pieces are not restored, diminishing the collection's relevance and long-term value.

KEY DATES

- Ongoing

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