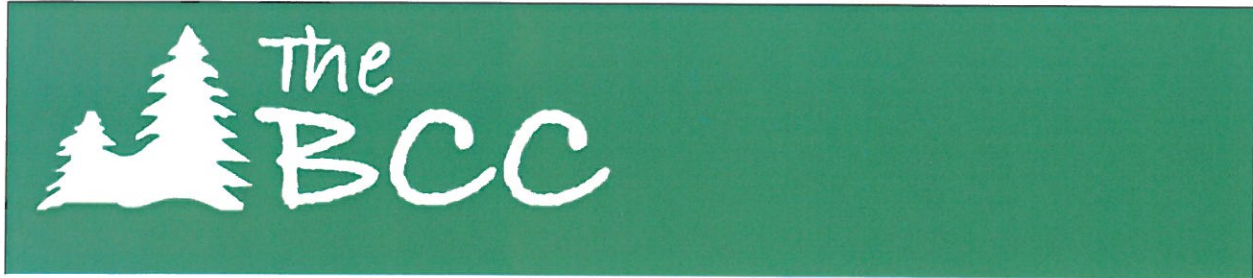


Buckhorn Community Centre & Athletic Association

Founded 1977



Introduction

Would you mortgage your home to help build a community centre?

Well, incredibly, 30+ years ago a group of very special people had a dream and a vision. They saw the need for a proper community centre in Buckhorn. These courageous and generous people actually did mortgage their homes to realize their dream. With the help of Wintario funding, they built our Buckhorn Community Centre.

Here is a summary of the milestone events in the history of your Buckhorn Community Centre !

**** Help us complete our history !**

If you have any relevant information you think should be added please send it in an email to our general email. >> "buckhornccc40@gmail.com"

1969 May	<p>Original site land purchased from the Bannon's to the initial mortgage Guarantors for \$1,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lot #9 in the 9th Concession - Previously the community centre was Purser Hall - Now Karen's Kollektibles in Buckhorn - No running water or indoor toilets!
1977 May	<p>Original \$35,000 Mortgage was taken out by our Guarantor / Founders</p> <p>+ \$777 Wintario Grant for sports equipment</p> <p>Started construction of the new centre in the fall of 1977 and completed in the spring of 1978. For the original building, the designer was Dave Rome, the architect George Hilton and the builder John Chretien.</p>
1978 Jun	<p>Official Opening. The Buckhorn Community Centre opened its doors to the public in March 1978 with activities such as dancing, bingo and floor hockey that year. Purser Hall was sold for \$6,000 to help finance the new hall.</p>
1978 Aug	<p>The first Buckhorn Wildlife Art Festival</p> <p>That spring, President Bob Creighton approached local artist Edwin Matthews with an idea to have an art show as a fundraiser to help pay the mortgage. Edwin Matthews organized our "Buckhorn Wildlife Art Festival" project with incredible enthusiasm and vision and the the Buckhorn Wildlife Art Festival and Sale was born. At the time, no one knew if people would want to come to</p>

	a little hamlet like Buckhorn to enjoy and buy art. Various committees were set up by the Centre to start the process.
1979 Jan	Mortgage redone w' 16 Guarantors - \$49,500 at 11.5%
1979 Oct	The first Harvest Craft Show was held
1980 Jul	\$21,000 Wintario Grant for Ball Diamond
1982	Festival Park was created and built by volunteers - A donation of 400 wildlife art prints by Michael Dumas helped fund the park
1983 1983 May	The Mortgage was Paid Off - Mortgage burning party! The first Spring Craft Show was held.
1986	Festival park buildings were rearranged. The set-up was confusing and people ended up going in circles or missing a building. The buildings were arranged in an oval. The concrete pads that the buildings stood on are used for table and chairs during events, dancing or music.
1987	The Wildlife Art Festival was a huge success. We used Buckhorn Sand and Gravel Pit to park visitors. A shuttle bus picked up visitors from the pit and brought them to the show. That was all good.....until it rained. The Overflow Parking Lot land was purchased for 28,000 dollars The new general Parking area was created, west of the main building at the top of hill on Lakehurst road. The 10th Wildlife Art Festival was celebrated by 10 days of celebration throughout the town. A grant was secured and organizations were asked to participate. A Dixie Land parade, dog show and music were some of the events The acoustics were terrible in the gymnasium. Brick walls only bounced the sound off and trying to talk during a dance was impossible. Orange

	and brown curtains hung on the west wall from floor to ceiling to try and help with this problem. A 5,000 grant was secured in this year and the curtains came down and acoustic panels with sound proof insulation were installed on the walls and ceiling. This has helped tremendously
1991	The Cardinal Pavillion was extended from 36' feet to 60'. The original Cardinal cement base had a roof installed so that outdoor events could enjoy being outside but be out of the sun and rain.
1992	All the interior walls in the out buildings were bare chipboard. For the 15th year of the Art Festival all the interior walls were painted , rugs were purchased and laid in all the pavilions. Rugs were also spread on the floors of the main building and the school where the woodcarvers held their display. This was for the art festival only. The exposed cement floors were painted to match the rug. Flag sleeves were installed on every pavilion to fly the Provincial flags.
1994	<p>By 1994, many of our events had outgrown the facility. Ontario Infrastructure funding enabled our Centre to build an addition doubling the size of the building. Many hours were spent by the Board of directors applying for the Jobs Ontario grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BCC had saved \$300,000 from events. The grant matched this amount and an' addition was built. The new addition was drywalled and had a drop ceiling and was more suited to hosting special events such as weddings and parties. - this is the Banquet area west of the gym and where the movable dividing wall is today. - in addition the main parking area was paved.

1996	The first Dinner Theatre was held. All the actors are volunteers and the show was put on for two days, seating 108 per day. The Halls Bridge Players came into being as a theatre group. Still going strong
1996	The first Nick Of Time Craft Show was held in November.
1997	The first Fiesta Buckhorn Wine event was held. Organized by volunteers. This successful event grew.
2002	Our 25th Anniversary the BCC volunteer appreciation dinner was an Hawaiian theme. We had a hoot!
2003	Autumn Dinner theatre started and is held yearly
2008	<p>The BCC supported the creation of the Buckhorn Sports Pad by the Municipality by leasing the land to Trent Lakes at a nominal rate of \$1/yr.</p> <p>- Supported by two back to back \$15,000 municipal grants and a \$100,000 Trillium Foundation (Ontario) the year around Sports Pad was completed for \$239,000, the balance of which was raised through volunteers and fundraising events. Trent Lakes Township continues to look after and book the facility.</p>
2011	<p>Was the last Fiesta Buckhorn due to Alcohol and Gaming Commission restrictions.</p> <p>This is the year we bit the bullet and borrowed 350,000.00 to install a 312 panel Solar Array. We had applied for and secured a contract with Hydro One to sell all power back to the grid. Sean Flanigan of Flanigan and Sun worked with us and installed the 312 panel grid for just the cost of the supplies. It will</p>

	<p>take around 7 years to pay the loan off. The array generates approximately \$55,000 dollars a year. This is money that will be coming to us for approx. 20 years. This income will help us endure the BCC is in good repair.....money that we did not have to fundraise or volunteer for.</p>
2013	<p>To expand the utilization of the Buckhorn Sports Pad the Pad Committee conducted a Raise The Roof campaign to raise funds and secure grants to cover the pad at a cost of \$220,000.</p>
2016	<p>The last Nick of Time Craft Show was held.</p> <p>Many events have been organized over the years. At this time some of our successful events that have been operating for 5 years include: The Old Fashioned Fish Fry, Holiday Home Tour, Childrens Christmas and Hallowe'en parties.</p>
2017	<p>Most of our major construction was done in the first 25 years of the BCC. We have been very successful in securing grants in the past few years to: replace both kitchens, install door openers, purchase cupboards for the bar and board room, purchase supplies to paint the interior of the BCC for the sight impaired, hire summer students, replace the panels used for setup of our art festival and craft show (this included replacement of the chipboard panels in the pavilions), create a sidewalk from the middle of festival park to make the whole park accessible, as well as making the front sidewalk wider and creating a patio at the front of the BCC so that level space was available for tables/chairs or events. A grant was also secured to replace aging equipment in our fitness room and run a couple of exercise programs, one for seniors, one for children and also one program using kettlebells.</p>

Our Founders:

John and Irene Bannan

John and Dorothy Biggs

Harry and Joan Caunce

Norm and Andrea Childs

Bob and Kay Creighton

Doug and Wendy Dixon

Walter and Linda Dixon

Connie Gemmill

Eric and Elsie Hilton

George and Diane Hilton

Art and Olive Iddison

R. Paul Page

Paul and Linda Parkhurst

Ray and Marg Pogue

Don and Vivian Smith

Neal and Pat Smith

Art and Carmen Webster