

# **PRESS RELEASE -**

**September 30, 2017**

## **CANNINGTON BLACKSMITH SHOP OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE PUBLIC**

Cannington, ON —The Cannington & Area Historical Society will host its Doors Open event at the Blacksmith and Carriage Shop as part of Canada's Culture Day on Saturday, September 30, 2017, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. at 21 Laidlaw Street South. Community members are invited to tour the restored portion of the building, including the forge area.

At Doors Open, the Society will celebrate the official opening of the restored blacksmith shop, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 12:30 p.m. Remarks will be delivered on behalf of the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and Minister responsible for FedDev Ontario and by His Worship John Grant, Mayor for the Township of Brock.

The Cannington and Area Historical Society, a not-for-profit charity, owns and operates the Blacksmith and Carriage Shop. The Society received funding of up to \$10,000 to improve the Shop's flooring, chimney and building systems. Funding was provided through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, delivered by the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario).

"The Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program helps preserve and improve public infrastructure assets such as community centres, recreational facilities, cultural centres and other spaces that unite us and help celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary," said Minister Bains. "Cannington Historical Museum is certainly a place that brings Canadians together to share experiences with our friends and neighbours in the community."

"The Blacksmith Shop restoration project by the volunteers of the Cannington and Area Historical Society preserves an important part of the built heritage in Cannington. Protection of this 150 year old building will be a 'seed' to compliment the Township's revitalization of Cannington's downtown," said Mayor Grant. "The project will provide a unique museum to enlighten future generations on the rich local history of our community."

This event is to show appreciation for the many people that made this project happen, including those who gave of their time and skills, and those who made generous monetary donations.

**Contact:**

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