

Collective Memories: Looking Back, Moving Forward



**Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador
2018**

www.collectivememories.ca

Collective Memories - Looking Back, Moving Forward

prepared by Dale Jarvis and Terra Barrett

Collective Memories Project

Heritage Foundation of NL

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Overview of Program

The Collective Memories Project is an initiative which invites seniors to record their stories and memories for archiving and sharing. The project focuses on creating a venue for community members and seniors to come together to share their ideas, experiences, memories, and traditional knowledge. The Collective Memories Project aims to promote and support activities to engage seniors, and at the same time promote pride in community history and traditional cultural activities. The Collective Memories Project is an initiative of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, with funding provided by the Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development.



**Collective
MEMORIES**

The Collective Memories Project was initiated during the spring of 2016 and kicked off with a news release from the provincial government on July 7, 2016. This news release included a call for community partners, and also listed the projects' three main goals:

- to conduct a survey of existing oral history collections (print, video, and audio);
- to conduct oral history interviews with seniors; and,
- to create a plan and toolkit for communities wishing to record and collect their own stories at the local level.

Program Delivery

The Collective Memories Program is managed by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (HFNL) which was established in 1984 to preserve the architectural heritage of the province. In 2008, HFNL was the organization chosen to lead and implement the province's Intangible Cultural Heritage Strategy. Our mission is to safeguard and sustain the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador for present and future generations everywhere, as a vital part of the identities of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, and as a valuable collection of unique knowledge and customs. Project manager for the Collective Memories project is folklorist Dale Jarvis, and project researcher is Terra Barrett.

Logic Model

A logic model was developed for Collective Memories to identify short- to long-term outcomes along with indicators to provide a clear framework for program achievements and evaluation. Long-term outcomes included:

- Validate/recognize the contributions of seniors. Increased community pride.
- Reduce isolation of seniors, and support mental and emotional health/well-being.
- Support mentorship of younger people by their elders through intergenerational exchange.

See full logic model in Appendix A.

Activities Undertaken

The Collective Memories project consisted of several components including workshops, public presentations, planning meetings, oral history interviews, and other public events. One of the workshops offered was the People, Places, and Culture workshop which focused on raising awareness of the heritage assets, both tangible and intangible, found in the community. This workshop was piloted in five communities in the spring and summer of 2016 and is set to be officially launched by the end of March 2018. Other workshops offered include oral history, digitization, and traditional food preparation workshops.

The ICH Office also worked with several communities on specific projects, and offered planning suggestions and advice. As part of Collective Memories the ICH Office assisted communities with digitizing their oral history collections to make them accessible for research and use by community members, and by completing one-on-one oral history interviews focused on specific topics or on a senior's life history. We launched the oral history toolkit in March 2017 as an online resource. It guides communities through the steps of an oral history project from start to finish.

The Collective Memory project consisted of two major public events: the Memory Mug Up series and the Oral History Roadshow. Combined, these events involved the direct participation of 500 seniors.

The Memory Mug Up is an informal story sharing session for seniors, where people gather, have a cup of tea, and share memories. Throughout the course of project, 15 Memory Mug Ups in 8 different communities from St. John's to Grand Falls-Windsor, Placentia to Holyrood.

The Oral History Night Roadshow saw us travel from community to community, hosting a series of Oral History Nights, open-mic storytelling sessions led and inspired by seniors in that community. After the Oral History Night, we met individually with seniors, and completed one-on-one recordings of their stories. We archived and shared those

online in partnership with Memorial University's Digital Archives Initiative, and selected specific stories to transcribe. We then produced a booklet based on these stories and launched the booklet in each community. We have taken the Oral History Roadshow to New Perlican, Spaniard's Bay, Marysvale, Port Blandford, Salmon Cove, Bay Roberts, and Bonne Bay.

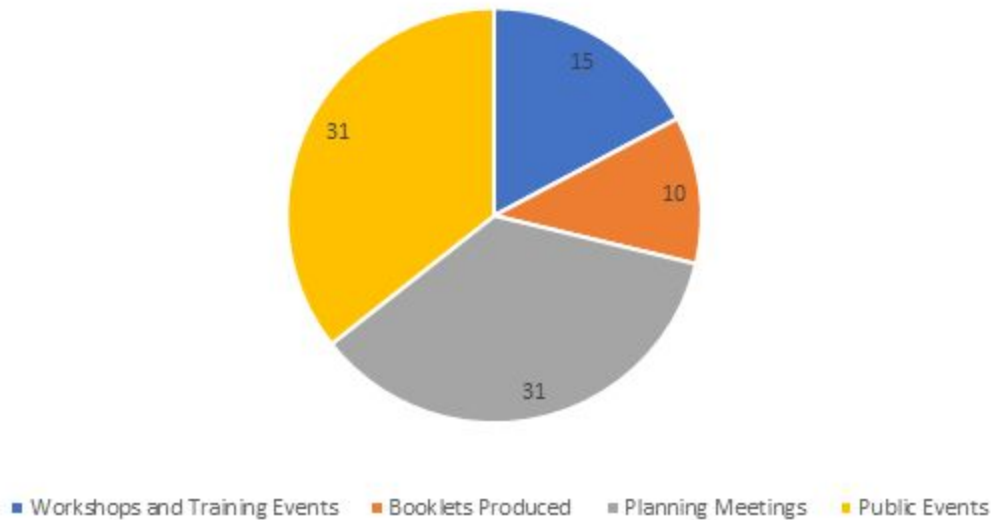
To date, a total of twelve booklets showcasing the memories of seniors have been created:

1. A Life-Changing Experience: Memories of City of St. John's Volunteers
2. The Story of the Spar: An Oral History of the Hazel Pearl
3. A Little Montréal: Merchants and Memories of Main Street, Windsor
4. I'm Going to Tell Your Mother: An Oral History of Childhood's Hidden Worlds
5. Railway Memories: Stories of the Newfoundland Railway
6. Stories from the Portugal Cove-St. Philip's Memory Mug Up
7. The Goats of New Perlican
8. Folk Cures and Practical Magic
9. Everything was Wrapped in Brown Paper: The Old Shops of Port Blandford
10. Down in the Sands: Boyhood Memories of Salmon Cove
11. Coves, Streets, Fields, and More: The Places of Bay Roberts
12. Marysvale Memories: The Stories of Bride Power
13. Stories From the Heart: Tales Collected by the 2018 Oral History Workshop

In addition to this, we conducted over 200 one-on-one interviews with seniors, wrote 118 blog posts for www.collectivememories.ca; wrote 24 newsletter articles for our Heritage Update newsletter; created 12 Downhome magazine articles in partnership with the magazine; and generated 24 mentions, articles, and interviews in traditional print, radio and TV media. Our oral history handbook was completed and distributed online at:

<http://www.ichblog.ca/p/oral-history.html>

Number of Events and Booklets Produced in 2016-2018



Number of events, workshops, meetings, and booklets



In order to track and analyze the effectiveness of the Collective Memories program, two survey tools were developed, which were completed by approximately a hundred seniors. These included:

- i) An online survey targeted to community organizers of activities, administered as a Google Form. Number of responses:
- ii) An in-person exit survey administered following public events, including Memory Mug Ups and workshops. All participants were given paper questionnaires and asked to respond to several questions and rate their satisfaction with the event. Number of responses:

[Copies of the surveys can be found in Appendix B]

The surveys demonstrate an overall appreciation for the workshops and events organized by the Heritage Foundation as well as a sizable interest in community heritage.



List of Survey Results

The surveys demonstrate a market for more senior's events on a wide range of topics. It was also noted that there a need to work towards more events which engage both youth and seniors in the community.

Participants responses indicated that while some of the events could benefit from a larger venue or the use a microphone to assist with those hard of hearing, consensus was that the events, particularly the “Memory Mug Up” events were well liked and seen as beneficial. There were several suggestions for future Memory Mug Up events in St. John’s and communities across the province, with themes identified and advertised in advance. The majority of respondents ranked the events as “excellent.”

Event organizers in particular stressed how beneficial the project was for the seniors of their community, and for community pride. Several people noted the importance of capturing seniors’ stories. A recurring theme was a call to continue to make sure seniors are involved in safeguarding their heritage. Organizers noted a need for better tools to engage seniors and help them share traditional knowledge, stories, and skills. The feedback from the oral history workshops demonstrates an interest and support for further oral history courses, as well as expanding on the workshops and adding courses or workshops on digital literacy, technology, and audio-video work targeted to seniors.

Testimonials

“Collecting the memories of people who worked at Harmon Air Force Base from 1941-1966 provided a forum for seniors to reminisce and share experiences. We were ever so grateful to have John Young's story (Retired US serviceman stationed at Harmon AFB) recorded. He was bound and determined to travel from the US to Stephenville one last time even when his health was failing him. John died shortly after his story was recorded. We are appreciative he shared a piece of his life story with us.”

“This project has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had and it has taught me a lot about my adopted community. Our booklet isn't even available as I'm writing this yet there is so much interest . The people we interviewed are anxiously awaiting its publication and I'm looking forward to the townspeople's reactions. The board of the GFW Heritage Society has been working hard to get our story out and get more people involved. I think this project will 'put us on the map' as they say.”

“Dale Jarvis and Terra Barrett made everyone feel welcome and relaxed during our People, Places and Traditions Tea. They created a comfortable setting where people felt encouraged to share stories. Favourite line from Dale - Not every community has a heritage building however every community has heritage!”

Recommendations for future work

As the first phase of the Collective Memories project draws to a close, there are two clearly-identified areas where HFNL might undertake additional work to realize some of the longer-term outcomes identified in the logic model, particularly the goal of reducing the isolation of seniors to support mental and emotional health/well-being, and the goal of supporting mentorship of younger people by their elders through intergenerational exchange. These two tracks for future work focus: (1), on the dissemination of the prepared toolkits, and (2), on the development and delivery of digital literacy skills workshops for seniors and support organizations.

Track One: Dissemination of Toolkit and training for Service Providers

One of the primary goals of phase one of the Collective Memories project was to create a plan and toolkit for communities wishing to record and collect their own stories at the local level. This work has been completed and placed online in a free, digital format. HFNL staff has prepared a series of handouts and how-to guides, including guides on how communities and support organizations can run their own Mug-Up events, and on running events to map and share the stories of local seniors.

The online toolkit is freely available, and while it is written in an accessible manner, there is a need to build implementation capacity at both the professional and volunteer level. Hands-on learning opportunities for organizers and community leaders are needed, to best show organizations how to take the toolkits and start to use them to develop local, self-directed projects. Successes over the past two years with the Memory Mug Up programs, as an example, have shown that once community leaders are introduced to and learn the process of organizing and running a Memory Mug Up, they are able to organize their own events.

Track One would see the development and delivery of a series of workshops/small forums to bring together organizations that serve seniors, such as volunteer organizations, 50+ clubs, libraries, seniors homes, and care facilities, to disseminate the completed toolkit and associated resources, and provide training in how to run their own events and projects.

Track Two: Digital Literacy & Memoir Workshops for Organizations and Seniors

Participant feedback clearly indicated a need for more workshops, and public events for seniors. There is also a clear desire for HFNL to develop and deliver more technology-based workshops (ie. Digital storytelling). Suggestions included workshops on audio and video recording equipment, editing programs, how to use archives, how to scan photos/digitize material, etc. Seniors are also interested in learning how to create personal memoirs, and writing stories based on their own experiences which can add

meaningful activities, validation, and engagement with younger generations.

To combine and meet these needs, we propose a series of “Digital Storytelling for Seniors” workshops.

Digital storytelling is a short form of digital media production that allows people to share aspects of their story. The typical end product is a short story created by combining a recorded narrative with images (still or moving), and music or other sounds. The story is usually 2-3 minutes in length and are told in the first person, about a person, event or issue the senior feels strongly about. One can think of digital storytelling as a way to create narrated slideshows, generated by the seniors themselves. Using computer-based tools to tell those stories helps interpret and make community history accessible, validates the contributions of seniors to community, and works to foster increased community pride.

Digital stories are produced in guided workshops, and accessible technology enables those without a technical background to produce works that tell a story using "moving" images and sound. Once finished, seniors' stories can easily be uploaded to YouTube, and can be made available to an intergenerational audience. Events will be hosted by volunteer seniors from local organizations, with instruction, training and guidance by workshop staff. The workshops could also support intergenerational interaction by getting youth to help seniors develop IT skills. Ideally, with the skills developed, some seniors will pursue longer-term initiatives such as the development of memoirs or other activities, supporting life-long seniors' engagement and sharing of personal histories and knowledge.

In each workshop, seniors will work through the following process:

1. Sharing a personal narrative orally as part of a group;
2. Writing their story and developing the script;
3. Developing a storyboard;
4. Selecting the images which are part of their story;
5. Scanning personal images or taking photos;
6. Recording the voice over;
7. Assembling the story and ordering the images.

After the workshops, there will be a public “movie night” session where seniors can invite family and friends to watch and listen to their short films. Then workshop leaders will move on to the next community, and start again!

These workshops can be expanded upon to create a variety of tools for creating personal memoirs, and longer-term seniors activities in communities. Memoir writing workshops could focus on improving writing skills, documenting personal stories, and recording family events and memories, all leading to greater community engagement and personal development.

Appendix A - Collective Memories Logic Model

Long-term Outcomes	Medium-term Outcomes	Short-term Outcomes	Indicators	Activities
<i>Validate/reco gnize the contributions of seniors. Increased community pride.</i>	<i>Raised profile of seniors' contributions to community</i>	Document stories and experiences of seniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of interviews conducted - # of interview archived - #Blog/newslett er articles - handbook completed and distributed - #booklets produced and distributed - #mentions in traditional print/radio/tv media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Oral history interviews conducted by office -Social media/blogging about the project -Newsletters -Booklets and other publications highlighting collected materials -Program promotion -Processing material, providing long-term access by posting online (DAI) -develop and distribute digital Handbook on how to collect and make accessible stories from seniors `
<i>Reduce isolation of seniors, and support mental and emotional health/well-be ing</i>	<i>Activities continue in the community</i>	Undertake pilot projects to bring seniors together to share stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of events - # of participants - participant feedback/surve y - #follow-up activities organized by communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -#Memory “Mug-up” event -#booklet launches -develop range of activities for seniors that can build on Collective Memories initiatives -identify factors that contribute to community ownership/leadership for Collective Memories activities
<i>Support mentorship of younger people by their elders through intergeneratio nal exchange.</i>	<i>Activities continue in the community</i>	<i>Organize activities between youth/ seniors to pass on knowledge</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of events - # of participants/wh o were they - participant feedback/surve y - plans for future events by community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional Skills workshops - Technical Skills workshops

Appendix B:

Organizer's Survey and Response

Oral History Workshop Survey and Response

Participant Survey and Response

Organizer's Survey

For which project/service/event are you providing feedback?

(On a scale of 1-10 rate the following)

To what extent did the event help validate or recognize the contributions of seniors?

To what extent did it increase community pride?

To what extent did it support mentorship of younger people by their elders through intergenerational exchange?

Provide an example of community pride:

List any benefits the events brought to participants:

How might the information/skills discussed be used by the community?

What future projects might you organize based on this experience?

What did you like best?

What would you improve?

What other services, heritage events, or programs for seniors would you like to see in your community?

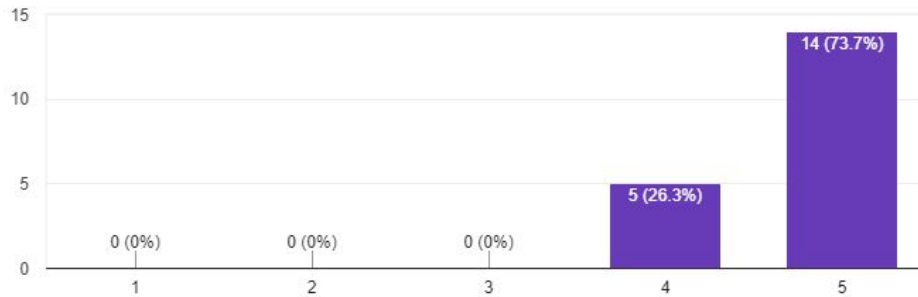
Testimonial! Did we do something helpful? Let us know in your comments!

Organizer's Survey Response:

20 respondents from various events across the province.

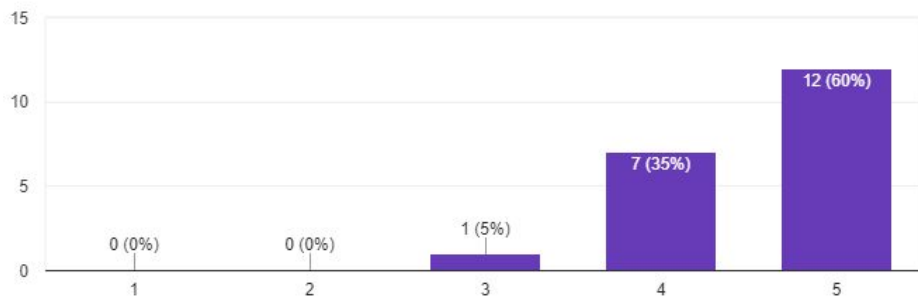
To what extent did the event help validate or recognize the contributions of seniors?

19 responses



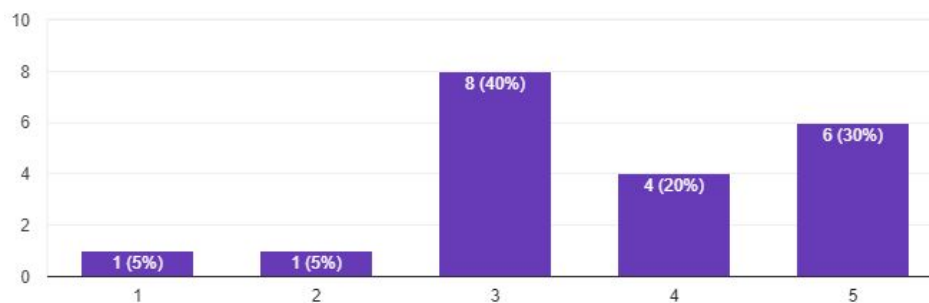
To what extent did it increase community pride?

20 responses



To what extent did it support mentorship of younger people by their elders through intergenerational exchange?

20 responses



Provide an example of community pride:

- Super response to the launch and the congrats/positive feedback from residents.*
- Residents who came to share stories seemed to have a very strong connection to their community.*
- Recognition of citizens' contributions to the community and increased awareness of how community developed.*

List any benefits the events brought to participants:

- Opportunity for older residents to provide info on a different way of life to future generations.*
- The participants, especially the seniors, felt valued and appreciated after the event. It also renewed interest in the history of the community.*
- The patrons felt proud and happy to be of service by sharing their memories and knowledge. The social aspect was a beautiful thing to watch, all participants had a great time, the fun was infectious.*

How might the information/skills discussed be used by the community?

- Heritage Society is creating a custom community map based on information gathered.*
- Through booklet sales (several people purchased them to send to family/friends); by generating interest in other seniors to relate their stories and experiences; to bring additional focus to the importance of recording and preserving our oral history and to support Heritage Society's mandate in this regard.*
- Personally, I feel that the bulk of the topics covered were ones that people (especially students) couldn't access easily. The stories of growing up, and the small details of daily life are ones that are important to remember when we consider how things are today. Recording these sessions, and having them made as a resource for students and future generations will help to preserve our culture, and give a voice to people that history often forgets.*

What future projects might you organize based on this experience?

- Expand oral history collection, update heritage booklet, tourist info, memorials, trails.*
- Community heritage events, focusing on seniors and/or youth, story nights, skills workshops, further heritage research, oral history projects, etc.*
- The participants loved the project and would like to continue the process of storytelling rather than a one-of. We've talked about different aspects like school days, community events like garden parties, bonfire nights, shops and stores over the years and games as well as more old pictures.*

What did you like best?

- Sharing stories and hearing new stories within the group.*
- The excitement it generated and how participants built on each others' stories.*
- The sense of community, and how the library came alive when the group was here. For those hours, our library felt the way a community library should, with our patrons feeling welcome, entertained and engaged in thoughtful discussion about our province.*

What would you improve?

-Nothing, really, about the event itself. More promotion of the event ahead of time to gain more participants.

-More editing of the oral history transcripts included in the community booklets.

-It is difficult to suggest improvements for a program which was so successful that the participants requested a second meeting. I think the team from the Heritage Foundation know exactly what they're doing with this program.

What other services, heritage events, or programs for seniors would you like to see in your community?

-Continuation of the interviews with seniors, further follow up on memories of the places and people, etc. mentioned at the Mapping event.

-More training for others to deliver what you deliver, i.e. interviewing techniques, mapping etc. Learn ways to engage seniors. Would like to develop more intergenerational events but not sure where to start!

-A monthly "storytime" where everyone who attends has an opportunity to relate/share stories about the old days. Each month would have a specific topic (war time, berry picking, card games, etc) and would be recorded (video, audio or both). A suitable, comfortable venue with mug-up provided, of course!

Oral History Workshop Survey:

On a scale from 1-5 please rate:

Value of presentation in meeting your needs

Use of practical examples

Skill/knowledge of present(s)

Overall rating of workshop

Why did you attend the workshop?

What would you have liked done differently?

What part of the workshop was most useful to you?

What other sort of workshops would you like to see offered?

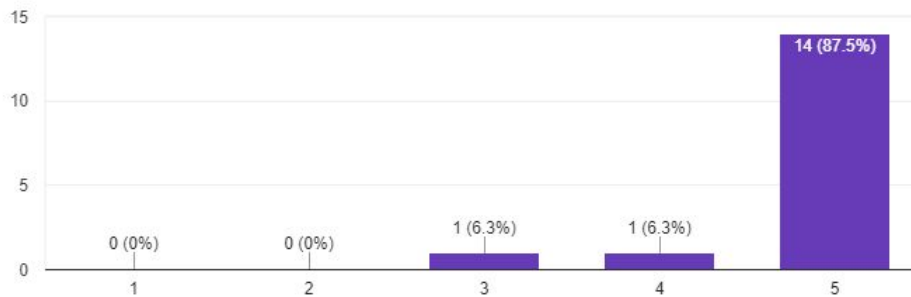
Other comments:

Oral History Workshop Survey Response:

16 participants who attended the oral history workshops offered at the Heritage Foundation's office in January 2017 and January 2018.

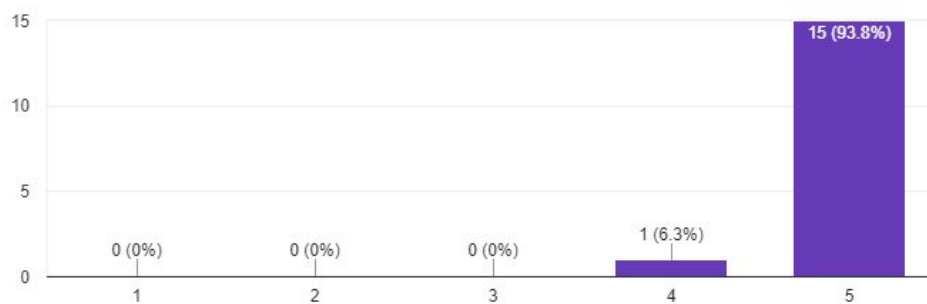
Value of presentation in meeting your needs

16 responses



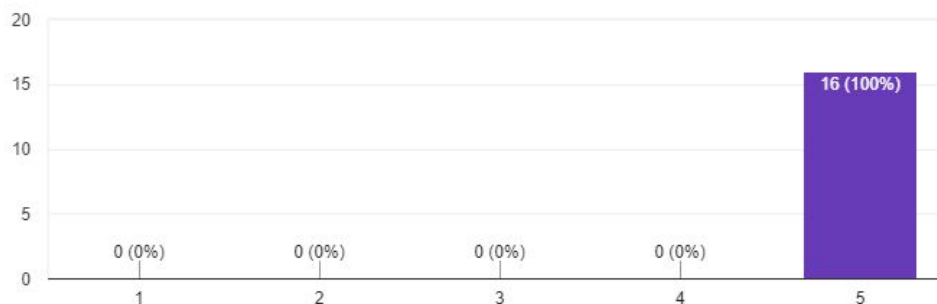
Use of practical examples

16 responses



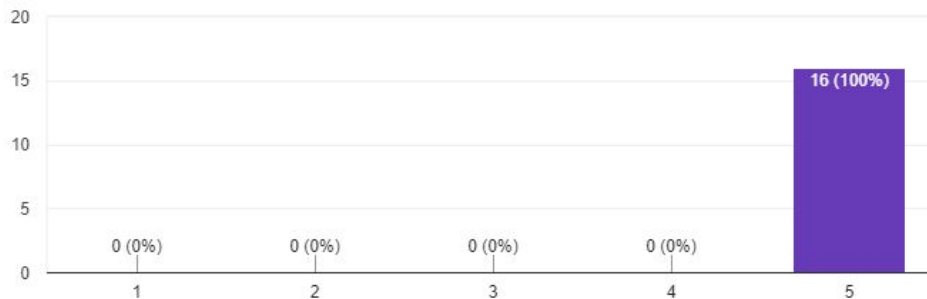
Skill/knowledge of presenter(s)

16 responses



Overall rating of workshop

16 responses



Why did you attend the workshop?

- Learn how to formally document interviews for conducting community research
- To learn how to interview for oral history, including how to do the recording, archiving.
- To learn more about i) collecting stories; ii) the legal aspects of collecting; iii) how to pass on the stories.

What would you have liked done differently?

- Maybe a little more time given to the “practice” interviews in class.
- More time for interviews/transcription. Maybe a two week time frame.
- I think just a little longer course so we can do a couple interviews for the project.

What part of the workshop was most useful to you?

- Practical application - giving everything a try and discussing it. Discussion and examples of consent forms. Information on tape logs.
- Dale's interviewing of an individual in front of the class was really helpful. Great to see the strategies in use before trying them out ourselves.
- Being required/asked to go out and do an actual interview and all the follow-up tasks afterward (tape log, transcription, etc.) I really need more practice, so that was quite helpful.

What other sort of workshops would you like to see offered?

- How to go through archives (photos, etc).
- How to apply oral history projects to video (video editing/filming/etc).
- Technology - I would have loved a day of us learning and using different mediums for recording so we could use multiple options with confidence.

Other comments:

- Great job! More please.
- Great workshop. Thoroughly enjoyed it. Learned a lot.
- I have really enjoyed this program. It was a very friendly presentation and the people involved, Dale, Katie, and Terra, were excellent.

Participant Survey

How would you rate your satisfaction with this event? (circle one below)
poor, fair, good, very good, excellent

How likely would you be to participate in another event like this? (circle one below)
I would not, perhaps, likely, very likely, absolutely

Why did you attend this event?

What did you enjoy most about this event?

What would you have done differently?

Do you have any suggestions for how to improve the event in the future?

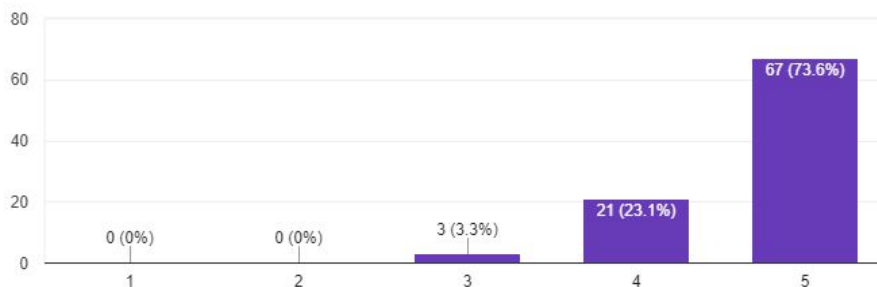
What other heritage events for seniors would you like to see?

Participant Survey Response:

91 respondents from various programs across the province

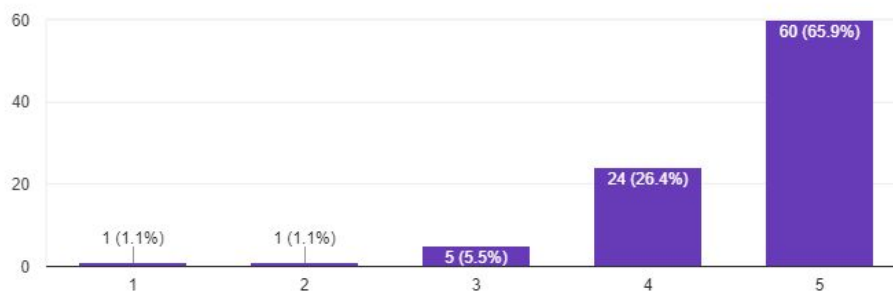
How would you rate your satisfaction with this event?

91 responses



How likely would you be to participate in another event like this?

91 responses



Why did you attend this event?

- Interest.
- Interested in local history.
- To hear other people's stories and tell a few of my own.

What did you enjoy most about this event?

- The stories.
- Everything.
- The easy atmosphere, humour + willingness of people to share.

What would you have done differently?

- Nothing.
- Bigger venue.
- Moderator to make sure each person gets a chance to speak.

Do you have any suggestion for how to improve the event in the future?

- Larger place, speak louder.
- Record the entire meeting. Things get missed when there are a number of private comments.
- Give everyone a chance to share if they so wish. It was done today but some spoke long than others & that's fair.

What other heritage events would you like to see?

- Keeping our heritage alive is so important. Continue to open up discussion to seniors.
- Any cooking/baking classes, Newfoundland/culture/heritage events of any kind.
- Mug Ups on Christmas of old. What did you do/spend your winter? Summer holidays - how did you spend them? Clothes we wore out to play during the winter. Games we played.

Stories of shopping in old St. John's wanted at Merchants and Memories Mug Up event

Folklorist Dale Jarvis says event is part of heritage project but also chance to get seniors out of the house

By Geoff Bartlett, [CBC News](#) Posted: Mar 28, 2017 8:57 AM NT Last Updated: Mar 28, 2017 8:57 AM NT

If you get nostalgic about the old days of shopping in downtown St. John's, there's an event at the Marjorie Mews Public Library just for you.

The third and final [Merchants and Memories Mug Up event](#) is taking place Wednesday at the library, and is a chance for seniors to share stories of their favourite places to shop in the city when they were young.

Folklorist and event organizer Dale Jarvis said the project was started as a way to collect people's memories about shops and shopkeepers — but also a chance to get seniors out of their homes for a fun afternoon.

"It's a way to get people thinking about our link to the past and memories about where they used to go and the places they used to love shopping," he told the [St. John's Morning Show](#).

Different shopping culture

Part of the motivation behind the Mug Up project is to show the difference in how people approached shopping decades ago in St. John's, in the years before malls and big box stores lured people away from mom and pop shops in the downtown area.

Jarvis said during the first two sessions they heard stories about people's memories of shopping at businesses like Bowring Brothers, Woolworth's and Arcade.

"It was a real social activity, going downtown and shopping, and lots of people have great memories of that," he said.



Old St. John's
@old_stjohns

Water Street, looking east, Ayre and Sons to the right, with parked cars, c. 1948:

7:45 PM - Apr 3, 2016

12 See Old St. John's's other Tweets

One of Jarvis's own personal memories is of the wide variety of goods that those stores would have available, such as at W.J. Murphy's at Rawlins Cross.

"You could buy everything," he said. "You could buy groceries, you could get your moose cut up and you could buy coal. It was one of those real neighbourhood shops."

The third and final Merchants and Memories Mug Up takes place Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. at the Marjorie Mews Public Library in St. John's.

Tea, sweets and storytelling

Jarvis said everyone is welcome to come out for the event, which he describes as a heritage project that's also meant to be a fun afternoon for seniors and their families.

"We'll have the kettle on and some sweets and people can come by and share their stories," he said,.

"It's a way for us to capture some of these stories that are intangible and fragile. So we're hoping that while the event is public, people will sit down with us after and do oral histories interviews about the history of St. John's."

With files from St. John's Morning Show

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HOME > FEATURED > 'When I smell kerosene or jet fuel, I automatically think of home'

'When I smell kerosene or jet fuel, I automatically think of home'

🕒 February 23, 2017 👤 Arthur Green 📁 Featured, Lifestyles 💬 0



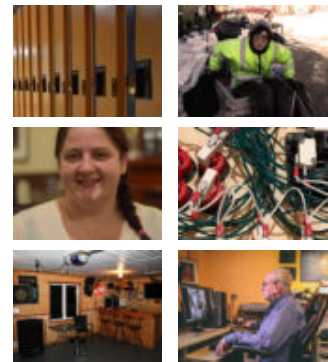
The Memory Mug Up offers a venue for Newfoundland seniors to reminisce and share.

Arthur Green
Kicker


Storytelling is one of the most powerful and meaningful ways of communication.


The common stereotype is that young people no longer listen when their parents or grandparents talk about their own childhoods. They put in their earbuds and block out the world.

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Plastic bags considered a thing

But a new initiative is hoping to preserve the stories of Newfoundland and Labrador's seniors, even if it's only amongst themselves.

The Memory Mug Up is an informal story-sharing session where people gather, sip cups of tea and share their memories. It is organized every Wednesday by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. The most recent Mug Up was held at the Majorie Mews Library in St. John's.



Patricia E. Lacey attends Memory Mug Up to listen to the history of her peers. The Memory Mug Up is hosted every Wednesday by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. Arthur Green/Kicker

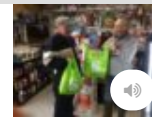
Kent John Peyton's father served in the Royal Air Force's 125 Newfoundland Night Fighter Squadron. He told the mild-mannered group of seniors in attendance he was named Kent in remembrance of his father's war-time buddy.

Peyton was asked by event organizer Dale Jarvis to think back and remember a smell from his childhood.

"When I smell kerosene or jet fuel, I automatically think of home," he said.

Peyton's hometown is Gander. When he was young the town handled a high volume of the province's aviation traffic and his father was an aircraft mechanic. Peyton brought two unique objects with him, a bottle of 1947 Chateau Gloria wine from St. Julien, with its withered cork, and an old flight menu.

In 1947, there was a Pan American World Airways flight going from New York to Paris catered by Maxim's restaurant that landed in Gander. The flight featured a seven-course meal and needed to be heated in electrical ovens, that, from his father's standpoint, was a nightmare. When the ovens broke, his father leapt into action.



of the past in Cartwright, Labrador

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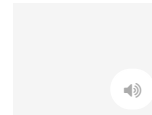
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"My father managed to repair the ovens and the ecstatic flight attendant gave my dad the bottle as a memento to show her gratitude. I've had it ever since," Payton said, as he carefully handed around the treasure.



Anne-Marie Moore from Corner Brook shared her story about her brother who was killed in the Second World War. She was five years old when the war ended. Arthur Green/Kicker

Anne-Marie Moore, from Corner Brook, was another participant at the Mug Up.

"I remember the day the war was over. I was 5 years old," she said.

Moore's brother Billy was killed overseas in the Second World War and found it difficult to talk about the memory. He had just turned 20 years old.

"When you talk about coincidence, my father's only brother got killed in action Feb. 8, 1917, same day as Billy," she said about her uncle who served

in the First World War.

A day after the Second World War ended, she said there was a parade where all the kids were banging wooden spoons on pots and pans. Shouts of delight filled the air with song while children danced and played their makeshift instruments.

Even though her mother had lost one of her sons in the war, she still came out of the house and sat on the porch to watch the children celebrate.

"I was just a tot and I remember she was crying but still present and I began to cry, too. That's very vivid."

Organizer Terra Barrett says the Memory Mug Up is vital in preserving stories that are so often unheard.

"It's really important to record and share these stories as they are an interesting but perhaps lesser known part of our history," Barrett said.

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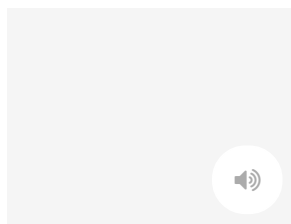
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