



The Flame

Banting House National Historic Site of Canada: January—April 2014



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The Flame welcomes your comments. Please email us at banting@diabetes.ca. Let us know what you think about what you have read, our programs, or subjects you are interested in learning more about. We will do our best to accommodate your requests.



Hosting Novo Nordisk Canada. Pictured from left to right are: Pat Arnone, Iain Graham, Daniella Linton, Vince Lamanna and Soren Mikkelson (Novo Nordisk Denmark). February 5, 2014.



Volunteer Luncheon, April 26, 2014.

Banting House National Historic Site of Canada is owned and operated by the Canadian Diabetes Association, an independently governed charitable organization. Our mission is defined as:

Creating public awareness and understanding of the national historic significance of Sir Frederick Banting and preserving the commemorative integrity of Banting House National Historic Site of Canada, the birthplace of insulin, for the benefit of the people of Canada.

Staff

Anne Le-Quang

Senior Manager, Programs, Services and Partnerships – Ontario

Grant Maltman

Curator

Brittany Fazio

Community Engagement Coordinator

Sue McCarville

Administrative Support

Stacey Devlin

Public History Intern
Western University (PT)

Volunteers

Terry Lynn Clarkin, Volunteer Coordinator

Amber Mandich, Registrar

Jessica Cowie, Graphic Design, Research

Tasha Di Lereto, Social Media Assistant

Museum Guides

Helen Aawai

Alison Butler

Natasha Cvetkovic

Alison Deplonty

Sean Hague

Lindsay Kernohan

Stephanie Lee

Meaghan McCracken

Cliff Oliver

Katrina Pasierbek

Stephanie Radu

Bailey Russell

Jessica Riggs

Bess Roy

Nicole Sedgwick

Sophie Song

Museum Advisory Committee

Jeff Bennett, Chair

Robert Adeland

George Clark

Jane Cunningham

Ron Dawson

Grant Hopcroft

Murray Hunter

Joshua Workman

Julie Zamprogna-Ballés

Tom Weihmayr

A Message from the Curator, Grant Maltman

April is Volunteer Month, a time for us to recognise the efforts of all our volunteers. This issue was designed and written by a volunteer team and acknowledges their invaluable donation of time and support. As you go through, you will see that they have been hard at work, taking on a range of different projects, and have accepted awards for their contributions to Banting House.

Unfortunately, as many of our volunteers are graduating from Western University this year, and will be moving on to pursue vibrant career and graduate degrees, we will be saying 'goodbye' to some of our greatest helpers and advocates. I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for showing up between classes, during exam periods and on weekends to research objects in the collection, work on our social media programs, build our databases, conduct tours and assist with "other duties as assigned" (including reminding me of where I left my glasses). I wish you the best of luck and look forward to hearing about the next chapters of your lives.

There is much to look forward to in the coming months at Banting House NHSC thanks to the continued support and guidance of the Museum Advisory Committee. Diligently working since last fall on Banting & Friends VI, they have ensured that the event planning has stayed on track and helped secure artists and sponsors. One of our members, Ron Dawson, was recognized by *The Meal* Committee, another volunteer group of the Canadian Diabetes Association. He was awarded the Honorary Volunteer of the Year Award, in tribute to the late Judge John Seneshen. Mr. Dawson has served on the Museum Advisory



Committee since 2007 and we congratulate him on this well-deserved honour!

May is Museum Month and we hope our contribution to this year's international celebration will be the removal of the scaffolding and tarp that has covered the building since last July. Originally scheduled for completion at the end of March, a healthy combination of bad weather (with the early onset of a long and extremely cold winter) and unexpected porch anomalies left us significantly behind. Having had many glimpses behind the tarp, I can assure you that you will not be disappointed with the final product. I certainly look forward to no longer having to respond to the question "When is the scaffolding coming down?"

I hope you enjoy our Second Issue of *The Flame*. We appreciated feedback received from the inaugural issue and look forward to your comments on the second.

Grant M. Maltman
Curator

Highlights

Restoration Update

The end is near. There is light at the end of the tunnel. We're almost done! These are phrases that have become the mantra for staff, volunteers and the restoration crew.

It was a tough winter for outside work, but with the recent thaw, the crew from Robertson Restoration has been making every effort to complete the work while diligently adhering to Parks Canada's Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. The focus now is the restoration of the porch, returning it to its appearance in 1920.

The following is reproduced from Stacey Devlin's blog, *"Behind the scenes: the restoration project"*, March 3, 2014:

"Our main concerns were replacing the deteriorating slate roof – sections of which had weathered 113 years – restoring the siding and repointing the brickwork, and repairing the front porch. As the work has

progressed, we've made some interesting discoveries. Our curator had always known the columns for the porch were a little "off" in terms of the detailing (they were added during a renovation in the 1980s), but after beginning work on the porch we discovered just how "off" they were.

It turns out that the original roof of the porch came down several inches lower, had large elaborate brackets, and had short, stubby columns rather than long, skinny ones. By doing a little more detective work (searching in our archives for old photos of the house, inspecting the brick of the porch to spot shadows of where previous structures were) we were able to discern what the porch should actually look like. Restoring the porch will be the final task for our construction crew before the restoration project's funding comes to an end."

Work is now expected to be completed in early June.



Visitor Comment

"An excellent, informative, and important museum ."

Matt Kruchak – Saskatchewan, SK

- February 11, 2014

Sherilynn Walker getting her photograph taken with the Flame of Hope.



She writes;

"I have been recognized as one of the top 100 Innovators in Research and Development at Eli Lilly & Company. Each recipient around the globe is being recognized internally and we were required to have a casual, meaningful photograph taken. With Lilly being one of the initial collaborators and manufacturers of insulin with Drs. Banting and Best, and since I am from London, I thought it would be meaningful to have my photo shot by Banting House. Thank you for your interest, I wish you a great day!"

Regards,

Sherilyn Walker
Regional Research Manager (Autoimmune and Neuroscience)
Eli Lilly Canada (DCOE Bio-Medicines)

Highlights

Volunteers Hard at Work

Volunteers. What would we do without them? There is no question that the museum could not achieve all that it hopes to without their efforts.

In April, we joined the rest of the country and celebrated National Volunteer Week (April 6-12) – a time “to recognize, celebrate and thank Canada’s 13.3 million volunteers.” Banting House is fortunate to have a dedicated corps of volunteers who help us on a monthly, bi-weekly or weekly basis with many facets of the museum’s operations.

This year, at our Annual Spring Meeting, I had the pleasure of distributing the Ontario Services Awards to our eligible volunteers. The event was bittersweet as we also had to bid farewell to six volunteers who won’t be returning next year due to other opportunities. As graduation sets them on their career paths, we hope that their experiences here will stay with them and continue to inspire them as they embark on

new challenges. On every shift, they made a difference, shaping our education programs, organizing special events and bringing life to Banting’s story for nearly 3,000 visitors in the past year.

It is through them that, we meet our mission of *creating public awareness and understanding of the national historic significance of Sir Frederick Banting and preserving the commemorative integrity of Banting House National Historic Site of Canada, the birthplace of insulin, for the benefit of the people of Canada.*

To all of our volunteers, a heartfelt thanks from Banting House National Historic Site of Canada and the Canadian Diabetes Association!

Dear Dr. Banting:

“Thank you so much for your wonderful discovery of insulin. If it wasn’t for you my older sister and I wouldn’t be alive today! We owe our lives to you & those dogs you did your research on! Thank you so sososo much.”

- Georgie-Paris Johnson, 12 years old, Brisbane, AUS



Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Terry Clarkin



In the spring of 2003, health issues forced me to take an early retirement from teaching. My son was struggling with his Type 1 diabetes. I saw an advertisement in the local Canadian Diabetes Association newsletter stating they needed volunteers for Museum Guides and Office Volunteers. What a perfect opportunity.

My overly shy daughter had to put in her High School volunteer hours so I signed her up to help in the office, while I worked in the

museum. The volunteer experience literally changed my daughter's life and I found I could still teach and share experiences with others living with diabetes. So I stuck around!

At that time, the Museum had two long term volunteers to cover weekday hours and four or five student volunteers, who came in on Saturdays. When not conducting tours, I became the official statistician, tracking visitors, and volunteer hours which were required for various funding programs. It would be months before I met another museum volunteer. Our numbers began to increase, slowly, as we began to more actively recruit new volunteers.

In 2006, the Museum Advisory Committee, comprised of six or seven volunteers from the business community, was created to assist in fund-raising and to help increase awareness of Banting House in the community.

By 2008, with recruitment well underway,

additional student support came from Western University's Masters in Public History Program and by 2010 we had a full complement, with volunteers on site Tuesday to Saturday, all year round.

As we formalized our Volunteer Program, expanding the number of roles to include a Registrar, a Social Media Coordinator, and Research Assistants, as well as Guides, our numbers increased. I was "promoted" to the position of Volunteer Coordinator and took on more responsibilities, including being responsible for volunteer luncheons, AODA compliance and training, scheduling and recognition.

Currently, we have 34 volunteers in the program. Twenty-two of them have been with us for 1-3 years. Bess Roy (20+), Cliff Oliver (15+) and I (10+) have all served for over 10 years at the museum. Nicole Sedgwick, who started as a summer student, is our longest serving youth volunteer (5+ years). Their contributions have been invaluable.

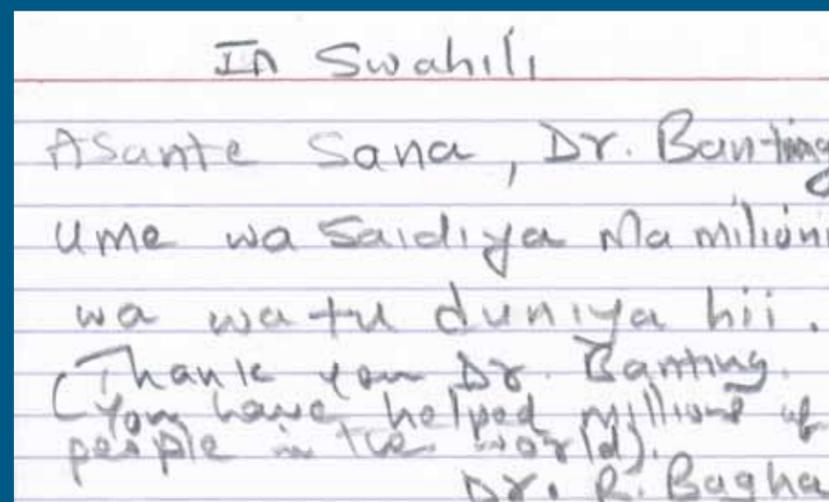
In 2013, the total volunteer contribution was 1,624 hours. While this past winter has been a tough one for everyone with the polar vortex, weekly blizzards and illness restricting our hours of operation and availability of volunteers, their contribution from January of 2014 to the end of March was 269.5 hours.



Dear Dr. Banting:

" Thank you for giving me my mother,
and letting me and my kids, Owen & Annaka Hansen,
live normal lives.
We are eternally grateful."

- Kate Hansen



Transcription:

Dear Dr. Banting:

" Asante sana, Dr. Banting.
Ume wa saidiya ma milioni
wa wa tu duniya hii."
"Thank you, Dr. Banting.
You have helped millions of
people in the world.

- Dr. R. Bagha

Research Assistant Reflection

Stacey Devlin



Hello everyone,

I'm Stacey Devlin, a Graduate Research Assistant at Banting House National Historic Site of Canada. You may have met me on a tour of Banting House, or may recognize me

as the voice of many of our blog posts, social media updates, and bulletin articles. Perhaps you know me as the girl who turned Banting House “blue” on World Diabetes Day.

I've been working at Banting House since September of 2013. My position is a product of a partnership between Banting House and Western University, which means that I work at this museum as part of my Master of Arts in Public History. This position has given me the opportunity to do every kind of museum work you can imagine (including social media, interpretation, collections management, research, policy development, and exhibit design, just to name a few). As this was my first job at a museum, there were plenty of times where I was taken outside of my comfort zone. I had never created critical paths, designed exhibits, catalogued artifacts, or interviewed artifact donors before. I also learned a lot of new things about diabetes and Sir Frederick Banting.

Every minute at Banting House has been a learning experience, and every minute of it has been fun. Although it will be hard to leave at the end of April, it makes me happy to know that next year another student will be able to work with Grant and with Banting House's treasures.

Banting House has left me with many good memories. I loved to see the reactions of visitors when they tour Banting House for the first time. Even those who are familiar with Banting's life were surprised by the rich collection we have and what a powerful story we tell. Just a few days ago I gave a tour to a man from British Columbia. During the tour he told me;

“Being in Banting's room gives me goosebumps. It's important to recognize those events that changed the course of human history. There aren't many moments that are so powerful. This is one of them.”

Statements like this are what inspired me to pursue a public history career in the first place. I believe that a museum has to have a compelling vision and really be committed to engaging the community in order for it live up to its full potential. This is the sort of thing I've seen at Banting House. Through working here, I've been able to share in Grant's vision and make people more aware of Banting's life and legacy.

Of course this position has been valuable in terms of the experience I have gained in my chosen field. But as someone with prediabetes, who has several family members with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, working at Banting House has been a special opportunity for me to advocate for both history education and diabetes awareness. I could not have imagined a more perfect placement!



Dear Dr. Banting:

“ I have lived with diabetes for 24 years and counting and just want to thank you for that. I am overwhelmed by your dedication and your humility and your generosity. You are my hero!”

- Sincerely, Bridget—Sault Ste. Marie

Visitor Comment

"Thank you for the fantastic tour and wonderful stories and info. What a gem of a museum."

Karen Alexander – London, ON., March 25, 2014

Registrar's Report

Amber Mandich



entirely on a volunteer basis, it represents wonderful progress!

Since 2012, we have acquired and processed 132 items (and counting!). Our collection continues to grow and each new acquisition undoubtedly enriches Banting's story.

Currently, the biggest project we are facing is processing the Peter Janes Collection, which was donated in late 2013. The donor's father, Joseph Janes, was a friend of Banting's and a fellow medical researcher. The collection consists mostly of archival documents including newspaper clippings relevant to Banting, medical books, pictures, slides, and framed photographs of the site in Newfoundland where Banting's plane tragically crashed. In addition to this, there is correspondence between Janes and Banting, a letter from Sadie Gairns, Banting's longtime Research Assistant, and numerous correspondence documents relating to Banting. It is very exciting when we accept a

The collections department at Banting House has come a long way since implementing its Collections Management strategy in 2012. With the help of volunteers, summer students, and interns, we have been able to completely update the records that were in the database when I started. This included renumbering, rehousing, relocating and updating the catalogue records for each item.

To date, we have processed over 500 artifacts. Considering this was done almost

donation such as this, as it allows us to get to know 'Fred' a little better.

Finally, we have purchased a brand new scanner which has greatly improved the digitization process. Not only is it much faster than our old scanner, the quality of the digital images is amazing. The scanner has the ability to scan photo negatives, glass plate negatives, and slides. Because of this, I was able to digitize amazing images from slides that came in with the Janes donation including images of Banting, Charles Best, Sadie Gairns, and the Banting Institute. I was also able to scan high quality images of a 1941 edition of the World Famous Heroes Magazine, a graphic novel that featured an eight-page spread dedicated to Banting.

These high-quality images have allowed for enlargement and are featured in Banting House's upcoming exhibition titled, "Three Stories. One Life. Banting's Biography and the Comic Book Aesthetic". Overall, the scanner has been a great asset to the

museum having greatly improved our digitization abilities, it has also enhanced the interpretation of our collection.

Moving forward, my goal is to continue processing the backlog of artifacts and archives that still need to be catalogued and entered into the database while simultaneously processing new acquisitions. Another priority will be reorganizing the storage room to maximize the area and to ensure proper conservation and preservation of the collection.

The collection at 'The Birthplace of Insulin' is diverse and inspiring, and gives the museum life. It is always a pleasure to volunteer at Banting House and assist in preserving the many pieces of history that truly tell a fascinating story.

Editor's note: When not volunteering at Banting House, Amber works full time as a Collections Relocation Assistant at Fanshawe Pioneer Village, and is working towards her Masters in Library and Information Studies.

Dear Dr. Banting:

"I don't suffer from diabetes, but I have a few friends that do. I am sure most people know someone that is affected by diabetes in some way or another. ... I know that insulin is not a cure for diabetes, and researchers are still working awfully hard to find one, but I still feel compelled to say, 'Dear Dr. Banting, Thank you for rescuing my friends.'"

Visitor Comment

"Fantastic! Interesting & emotional – talk given was so well done – held attention! ."

Pamela Kramer – London, ON., January 23, 2014

Services

Archives:

Banting House preserves and presents more than 2,500 objects, images and personal papers related to the life and career of Sir Frederick Banting. Access to material that is not on display is available for research purposes.

Accessibility:

Wheelchair access to the Museum is available through the Canadian Diabetes Association office attached to the rear of Banting House. Unfortunately at this time, wheelchair accessibility is limited to the first floor only.

Parking:

There is limited parking immediately behind Banting House with access off Queens Avenue. However, the Museum is surrounded by a municipal parking lot which has designated mobility-impaired spaces and is operated using the Master Meter System.

Rental Facilities:

Banting House offers an unique atmosphere for cocktail parties, receptions or special announcements. A full range of services are available. Invite your guests to discover the man they think they know.

Museum Store:

For a souvenir of your visit, choose from a selection of products related to Banting and Banting House. All sales support Banting House operations. An On-line catalogue can be found at: bantinghousesnhsc.wordpress.com

Tours:

Hosted by a dedicated group of volunteers, our tours introduce the life and career of Sir Frederick Banting through the use of artefacts and anecdotes. Guided and non-guided tours are available throughout the year for adults, seniors or school groups.

Tours are approximately 45 minutes to one hour. A nominal fee is charged: \$5 Adults; \$4 Seniors/Students; \$12 Family; \$60 Group Tours by appointment only.

Gallery Rental

Museums are always looking for new ways to generate income to support programs, acquire objects and keep the lights on. To that end, Banting House National Historic Site of Canada provides an unique opportunity for businesses and non-profits to host meetings, retreats, and training workshops away from the office, as well as adding an elegant touch of local history to special events and receptions.

With three options available, Banting House is well positioned to assist in making your event or meeting a success:

- The Lawson Family Board Room can accommodate either formal or informal gatherings or business meetings;
- The Hon. J.M. Seneshen & France Ruth Lawson Galleries offers an ideal backdrop for entertaining guests, program launches, or announcement events; and
- Sir Frederick G. Banting Square, a delightful mid-sized garden space, is the perfect location for informal meetings, benefits, and wine and cheese parties.

For more information, visit bantinghousesnhsc.wordpress.com or email: banting@diabetes.ca.



Boardroom Rental

This bright and spacious board room is an ideal space available to heritage groups, service clubs and the business community for meetings, seminars and staff training. Located on the third floor, the room comfortably seats 12-16 people and can be reconfigured to accommodate larger groups. Data projector, screen and internet is available if required.

Feedback

"Love the new update—*The Flame*—it really shows how Banting House is more than just a 'house' - but a multifaceted program of activities!"

Special Award for Volunteer

Ron Dawson



For the past 32 years, The Meal Committee, a dedicated group of London Volunteers, host a “food extravaganza in support of the Canadian Diabetes Association. Since its inception, they have raised more than 1.5 million dollars in support of the Canadian Diabetes Association research programs.

In 2002, they added to their “menu”, the Honourary Volunteer Award in tribute to the late Mr. Justice John M. Seneshen who was a driving force behind the establishment of Banting House NHSC. Selected by The Meal Committee, this annual award is presented to a Canadian Diabetes Association Volunteer at

the fundraising event, *The Meal*. This year’s recipient is one of our own, Mr. Ron Dawson. Ron has served on the Museum Advisory Committee since 2005. A strong ambassador for the museum in the community and vocal at our committee meetings, Ron’s advice, counsel and willingness to “do what has to be done” has helped Banting House NHSC realize many of its goals. Congratulations Ron!

Editor’s note: Previous Banting House volunteers to have received this award include Robert Adeland & Mina Thaler (2003) and Bess Roy (2011).

Volunteer Opportunities

Banting House is recruiting volunteers to assist in the delivery of its programs. All of our programs depend on the assistance of our dedicated volunteers. If you have a particular area of interest, we will try our best to match your interests with our immediate and long term needs, including:

Advisory Committee:

Volunteers assist the Museum Curator with the development of special events, fundraising, and donor cultivation.

Special Events:

Volunteers assist with the planning and delivery of two annual events—Banting & Friends and Doors Open London.

Gift Shop:

Volunteers ensure the Gift Shop is stocked and research new items for sale to the public.

Research:

Volunteers undertake research into specific themes, events or artefacts related to the Museum’s mission.

Programs:

Volunteer Tour Guides deliver education and interpretive programs for school groups and the general public. A minimum 4 hours per month commitment is required. New tour guides are provided with an orientation to the Museum and Guide Manual.

Social Media:

Volunteers are offered the opportunity to provide content for *The Flame* and the web.

Visitor Comment

"Thank you for enlightening me with a key piece of history.
This matters."

Kyle Chow – Vancouver, B.C., March 20, 2014

When volunteering at Banting House National Historic Site of Canada, you will:

- gain job-related experience to build your resume
- teach and learn at the same time
- use personal skills and stimulate the mind
- meet people from around the world
- enjoy an unforgettable experience

Banting House welcomes volunteers. If you are interested in learning more, please call 519-673-1752 or apply directly online at www.diabetes.ca.

Coming Soon!

Banting & Friends VI: June 19, 2014

Banting House National Historic Site of Canada is pleased to invite you to our 6th annual Banting and Friends event. Join us for a "sizzling summer barbeque," accompanied by wine and beer selections from Ontario. The event also includes a silent auction with multiple gift packages to be won.

The highlight of the evening will be the public presentation of original work created by artists who embody the spirit and passion of Sir Frederick Banting. Artwork on display will be available for purchase, offering a unique opportunity to support local artists. Confirmed feature artists include Kim Atlin, Steve Grimes, Maggie Hesketh, Cheri McLeod, Richard Sturgeon, Steve Tracy, and Martin Zimmer.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to build community awareness for both the life and career of Sir Frederick Banting and the arts community in the revitalized Old East Village.

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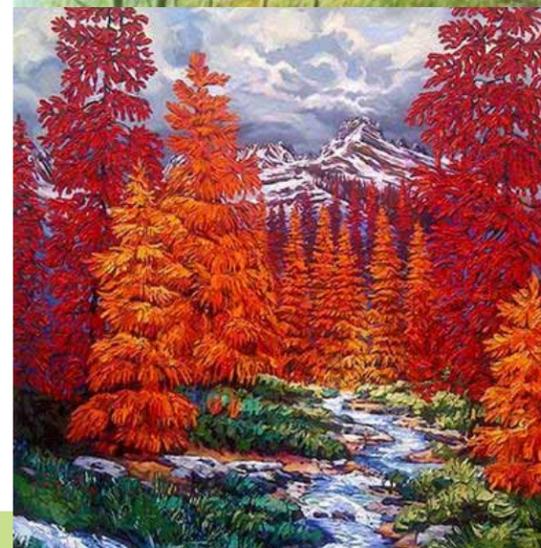
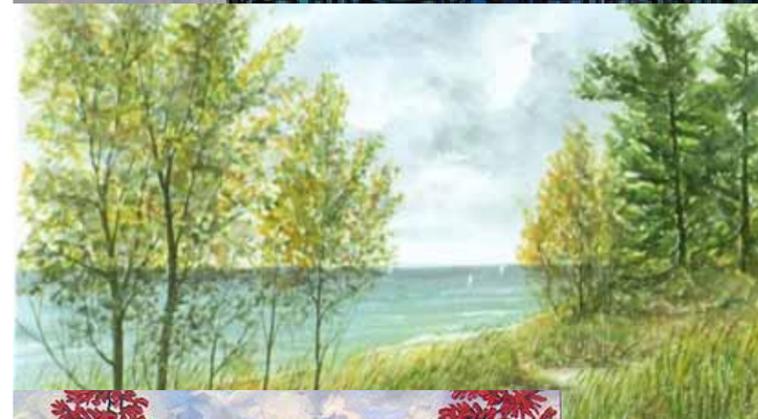
SJMA Architecture Inc.

Downtown London

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Cohen Highly LLP—Ben Blay

Stone in Style



Ticket Information! June 19, 2014 5:30 PM—8:30 PM



Banting House National Historic Site of Canada
442 Adelaide Street North

\$55 per person or \$100 per couple.

Ticket includes dinner and drinks for the evening and provides an opportunity to support local artists.

Funds generated from this event will be directed to support Banting House National Historic Site of Canada.

A Limited number of tickets are available. Reserve yours by contacting Grant Maltman at 519-673-1752 ext 226 or by email at banting@diabetes.ca.



Looking Ahead

Banting's Four Seasons Print Sale

There's a cost that comes with genius.

The genius of Sir Frederick Banting first shone in the lives of untold millions with his discovery of insulin. The personal cost to him was the persistent intrusions that a grateful world imposed on his own pursuits.

Banting found escape in art.

Banting's Four Seasons offers an opportunity to reflect on Banting's rare moments of respite. These limited edition prints capture the peace that Banting found in both his art practice and their places of inspiration. As a student, travelling companion and friend of A.Y. Jackson, Banting found not only a new outlet for creative expression, but a doorway to the wild Canadian landscapes he loved.

Now share Sir F.G. Banting's

Interpretation of Canadian landscapes.

Banting House National Historic Site of Canada is proud to announce that all four the Banting's Four Seasons prints are now available. Each print is limited to 250 and comes with its own Certificate of Authenticity.

Framed Print: \$325 + shipping (18" x 19")

Matted Print: \$250 + shipping (16" x 17")

Proceeds from Banting's Four Seasons Prints are allocated to the museum's acquisition fund, allowing the museum to acquire art, archival materials, objects and other ephemera related to the life and career of Sir Frederick Banting.

Doors Open London—September 27 & 28, 2014



Join us for Doors Open London—Remembering the First World War: Ontario in Transition. Rediscover Dr. F. G. Banting in terms of his military service and medical contributions in France, 1918, where Captain Banting was posted to the 13th Field Ambulance, and more!

Dear Dr. Banting:

“Without your discovery, my 8 year old daughter would not be alive today. I can only say thank you and god bless, from the bottom of my heart.

To the young doctors and scientists out there – please continue the good fight on behalf of all with this disease!

Thank you,”

- Tammy

