

# DOORS OPEN kingston ontario & Area

## Program Guide 2023



@DoorsKingston



# *What's Behind Those Doors?*

Doors Open Kingston & Area returns in 2023 with **three** event dates!

- 22 July 2023, 10am - 4pm
- 26 August 2023, 10am - 4pm
- 23 September 2023, 10am - 4pm

Discover, explore, and encounter the spaces, places, places, and stories that shape the communities of Kingston & Area! As always, Doors Open event days are **FREE** to the public!

Read below to learn more about what's happening at each site. For further program details please contact the site directly.





22 July 2023, 10am – 4pm

## Military Communications & Electronics Museum

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95 Craftsman Blvd, Kingston, ON  
613-541-4675

The Military Communications and Electronics Museum celebrates the contributions of the members of the Communications and Electronics Branch to Canadian history. The collection emphasizes the themes of the troops, the times and technology from Confederation to the present. Come and visit the vehicle area and the Royal Canadian Electric and Mechanical Engineers Museum exhibit.

## Loving Spoonful

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Community Gardens - Various Locations  
613-507-8848

Loving Spoonful is a Kingston-based, non-profit organization deeply committed to working to reduce hunger on many fronts with a broad range of community partners to enhance access to healthy food for all – including transforming our urban landscapes through community gardens and local food production. Loving Spoonful envisions a resilient community and local food system, that nourishes all people and supports dignified access to good food. Explore our urban agriculture sites and find out what's growing – both food and community!

**Drop-in Guided tours of our Community Training Farm** (100 Days Rd, Behind Centre 70) between 10am -1pm. Join our Community Kitchens team and their Outdoor Kitchen for a pay-what-you-can lunch from 11-12pm!

**Drop-in Guided tours of our Community Harvest Gardens** between 12 and 2pm at Calvin Park Branch of Kingston Frontenac Public Library (88 Wright Cres.) and Dutch Heritage Villa Seniors Centre (480 Elliot Ave.)



# Royal Military College of Canada Museum

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15 Valour Dr. Kingston, ON

RMC Museum tells the story of Canada's oldest military college and the earlier Kingston Naval Dockyard from the War of 1812. A rare opportunity for self-guided exploration of the incredible Currie Hall, Baronial Hall, and the Memorial Staircase in MacKenzie Building.

## HMCS Catarqui

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24 Navy Way, Kingston, ON

613-700-4321

Naval Reserve Division HMCS Catarqui is a military training establishment with multiple historical showcases. Located directly on the water and across from the Royal Military College of Canada (RMC). Come celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Naval Reserves.

- **Indoor Guided Tours:** 3 guided tours available at a time; maximum of 20 people per tour. Visitors will need to register for tours onsite.
- **Outdoor Guided Walking Tour**
- **Other On-Site Programming:** Free rigid-Hulled inflatable Boat Rides. Please note: visitors will need to sign a waiver to participate in Boat rides



## Bellevue House National Historic Site

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35 Centre St. Kingston, ON  
613-545-8666

Bellevue House National Historic Site is a place to explore the complex legacy of Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. MacDonald, and to reflect and share thoughts on Canada's history from different viewpoints. While the historic house remains closed for the renewal of exhibits and visitor experience offer, the Visitor Centre and the historic grounds are open.

**Outdoor Guided Walking Tour:** Tours are available every hour on the hour between 10 am -4pm; 15 people maximum per tour. French-language tours are available upon request. Please register at the front desk inside the Visitor Centre.

## Murney Tower National Historic Site

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2 King St. West, Kingston, ON  
613-217-8235

Located in one of the four Martello Towers of Kingston, Murney Tower Museum is part of the UNESCO world heritage site of the Rideau Canal and Fortifications. It is the oldest operating museum in Kingston with over 1000 domestic and military artifacts portraying 19th century life.

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Other On-Site Programming:** Brand new, accessibility-driven audio tour available; first of its kind in Kingston and area cultural heritage site



# Museum of Health Care at Kingston

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32 George St. Kingston, ON  
613-548-2419

The imposing Beaux-Arts style Ann Baillie Building was originally a student nurses' residence from 1904-1969. It was designated a National Historic Site in 1998. Now, it's the home of the Museum of Health Care with its extensive collection of artifacts. Gallery visits, tours of the archives and interactive activities will bring Canada's healthcare story to life! The Museum will also explore the connection between mental health and food with special displays and interactive activities.

- Indoor Guided Tour
- Other On-Site Programming: Behind the Scenes Collections Tour – for many museums, the artifacts on display are just the tip of the iceberg! Explore the galleries of the Museum for a behind-the-scenes look at all the fascinating artifacts in our large collection. Featuring over 35,000 artifacts, these rooms are rarely seen by the public.

Offering tours hourly at 10:30 am, 11:30 am, 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm and 3:30 (tours are approximately 15 minutes in duration.)

Please note: Tours are restricted to 5 guests per room and there are two rooms to explore. Any groups larger than 10 will need to be separated.

***Register for a Tour at their Registration Link:***

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/doors-open-kingston-behind-the-scenes-collections-tour-tickets-645368152517>



## Frontenac County Schools Museum

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414 Regent St. Kingston, ON  
613-544-9113

The Frontenac County Schools Museum is located in the former Pittsburgh Township Hall. This limestone building was designed by famed architect William Newlands and constructed in 1888. Prior to the building becoming the home of the Schools Museum, it was also a public library.

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Indoor Self-Guided Tour**
- **Other on-site Programming:** Heritage Crafts; outdoor gardens

## Macpherson House and Park

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180 Elizabeth St. Napanee, ON  
613-354-3027

An 1830's historic house detailing early Canadian life. Step back in time and imagine what life was like almost 200 years ago. The House is completely furnished and restored to its 1930s splendour. Enjoy the beautiful views of the Napanee River and the heritage Lady's Garden.

- **Indoor and Outdoor Self-Guided Tours:** Visitors are encouraged to bring a blanket and pack a picnic to enjoy lunch by the River. Garden Games will be out to play and walk through the heritage garden space.
- **Other Programming:** The Summer Kitchen showcases the tools of a kitchen from 200 years ago – enjoy a lemonade and a Scottish treat of shortbread.



## Museum of Lennox and Addington

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97 Thomas St. Napanee, ON  
613-354-3027

This historic building now houses the County Museum and Archives. Explore its stone walls and discover the county stories through programs, exhibits, and archives located in the former 1863 jail. A fun gift shop, new exhibits, and lively programs keep this site entertaining all year long.

- **Indoor Self-Guided Tour**
- **Other On-site Programming:** historic Recipe books pulled from the Archives for viewing; possible food sampling.

## Smiths Falls Heritage House Museum

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11 Old Slys Rd, Smiths Falls, ON  
613-283-6311

The Heritage House is the Smiths Falls community museum, offering changing local themed exhibitions, art shows and events in a one-of-a-kind 1860's home. This open-concept museum welcomes visitors to step beyond the velvet ropes to immerse themselves in history. Main level Victorian rooms feature artifacts that were made in the area or brought to Smiths Falls by local families. Test out the uncomfortable furniture or play the piano before heading upstairs to enjoy other periods of local art and history in the gallery spaces.

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Indoor Self-guided tour**
- **Outdoor Guided Tour**
- **Other programming:** Rug Demonstrations; Bake Oven demonstrations; Exhibits; Sitting Pretty in the Privy



# Agnes Etherington Art Centre

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36 University Ave, Kingston, ON  
613-533-2190

Situated within territories of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Huron-Wendat, the Agnes Etherington Art Centre is a curatorially-driven and research-intensive professional art centre that proudly serves a dual mandate as a leading, internationally recognized public art gallery and as an active pedagogical resource at Queen's University in Kingston. By commissioning, researching, collecting and stewarding works of art, and by exhibiting and interpreting visual culture through an intersectional lens, Agnes creates opportunities for participation and exchange across communities, cultures, histories and geographies.

**Indoor Self-guided tour:** Emergence – A Recent Gift of Indigenous Art

<https://agnes.queensu.ca/exhibition/emergence-a-recent-gift-of-indigenous-art/>





26 August 2023, 10am – 4pm

## Pumphouse

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23 Ontario St, Kingston, ON  
613-544-7867

Guided tours by request – drop in between 10am and 5pm!

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Indoor Self-Guided Tour**
- **Other On-Site Programming:** Stay tuned for updates!

## St. Georges Cathedral

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270 Kingston Street E. Kingston, ON

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Indoor Self-Guided Tour**
- **Outdoor Self-guided Walking Tour**

## HMCS Cataraqi

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**23 September 2023, 10am-4pm**

## **WD Jordan Rare Books and Special Collections (Queen's University Libraries)**

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**93 University Ave. 2nd Floor, Douglas Library, Queen's University, Kingston, ON  
613-533-2839**

W.D Jordan Rare Books and Specials Collections is located in the historic Douglas Library and operates as a research and teaching resource for students, faculty and the larger community. We preserve and provide access to a variety of materials, including rare books, maps, posters, Canadiana, and the impressive Schulich-Woolf Rare Book Collection. Our collections cover all subjects, including astronomy, natural history, classics, modern languages, literature, politics and history.

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Other Onsite programming:** Pop-up Exhibition of historical cookbooks, including community cookbooks.

## **The Spire**

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**82 Sydenham St. Kingston, ON  
613-544-8621**

The Spire is an iconic heritage building in Sydenham Heritage District. We are a community hub for about 1000 people each week, offering safe, barrier-free and affordable meeting and rehearsal spaces, as well as a wonderful performance hall. The Spire is a neo-Gothic gem in our city, the spire itself acting as a beacon for generations of mariners on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Our rainbow steps and community garden speak of our role in our community.

- **Indoor Guided Tour**
- **Outdoor Guided Walking Tour**
- **Other On-Site Program:** Guided Tour of the Spire Gallery



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- **Self-Guided Tour**
- **Other On-Site Programming:** Agnes Reimagined Talking Circles (1pm-3pm)

A slow and intentional community-engaged design process takes time. It is unpredictable and exciting! As we transition from schematic design into design development, we reconvene our sharing and talking circles for Agnes Reimagined, recapping what has already taken shape, and clearing the path for the future. Led by our collaborator, Anishinaabe-kwe artist and consultant Georgina Riel, these sessions are aligned with various key moments for KPMB Architects who are listening to what people bring to the table, incorporating our ideas, suggestions and values into the various design iterations (and there are many!). Everyone is welcome!

***Registration is required:***

<https://agnes.queensu.ca/participate/talks-tours-events/agnes-reimagined-sharing-talking-circles/>



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## Explore Outside

Manidoo Ogitigan (The Spirit Garden)  
@Lake Ontario Park (Kingston)

Royal Military College of Canada

Old Sydenham Heritage  
Conservation District

Kingston Waterfront Pathway

Queen's University Campus

Barriefield Village Heritage District  
and Rock Garden

Portsmouth Village

Market Square Heritage  
Conservation District



Don't forget to check out other  
Doors Open events across Ontario!  
[www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/pages/events](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/pages/events)