



200th Anniversary Events in Drummond/North Elmsley and Tay Valley Townships



Drummond North Elmsley

The year 2016 will mark the 200th Anniversary of the founding of the present day Drummond/North Elmsley Township. The original Elmsley Township, being closer to the St. Lawrence River, had been receiving immigrants as early as the late 1700s. In 1816, Drummond Township was surveyed and named, and, with the northern areas of Elmsley, became an important part of the Perth Military Settlement. By spring of that year both townships, along with neighbouring Burgess, Bathurst, and Beckwith, began to receive the first immigrants - mainly Scots, and demobilized soldiers sponsored under the settlement program.

Some ex-Military settlers received land on the Scotch Line in Elmsley, and others in Drummond Township. The civilian settlers in the 1816 era took land throughout Drummond and the northern areas of Elmsley Townships, joined soon by a wave of settlers from Ireland, Scotland and other countries. In 1841, Elmsley Township was split, and the area north of the Rideau was designated 'North Elmsley'. As in the other three municipalities, the upcoming 200th Anniversary celebrations will recognize and honour these early settlers - their hardships, dedication, accomplishments and their memory.

Listed below are some of the planned events which will feature the township's traditions and community spirit.

April 2/3, 2016 – Pioneer Maple Days at local Maple Sugar Camps

May 28, 2016 – Drummond/North Elmsley Heritage Day

June 25, 2016 – Settlers Trail unveiling at Rideau Ferry Dock (in collaboration with Tay Valley Township) will outline the arduous route the first settlers took from Brockville on foot and by scow to reach the military settlement,

July 9/10, 2016 – Celebrate Balderson (highlights the local agricultural history)

August 20, 2016 -Legacy Farm recognition unveiling @ Lanark County Plowing Match (In collaboration with Tay Valley) which will honour more than 80 farms in the two townships that have been in the same family for 100, 150 or 200 years

September 18, 2016 - Discover Drummond Day

Launch date not yet established – North Elmsley History Book

Historical Mapping Project - underway – (development of an interactive map of the Township showing the settlement history of each lot)

Tay Valley Township

In Tay Valley Township's three original townships - North Burgess, Bathurst, and South Sherbrooke - the initial farm lands were granted and occupied in the spring of 1816. These first Scottish settlers and the veterans of the War of 1812 - from England, Scotland, Ireland, Poland, Italy, and Germany - were soon joined by waves of emigrants, taking up properties that extended far north and south of the historic 'Scotch Line'.

The 200th Anniversary celebrations listed below will recognize and honour these early settlers - their hardships, dedication, accomplishments and their memory.

September 19, 2015 – Book Launch – At Home in Tay Valley (a book celebrating the history and people of Tay Valley Township and containing contributions from more than 60 people rooted in the area.)

January 9, 2016 – Heritage Winter Carnival

June 25, 2016 – Settlers Trail unveiling at Rideau Ferry Dock (in collaboration with Drummond/North Elmsley Township will outline the arduous route the first settlers took from Brockville on foot and by scow to reach the military settlement

August 19/20, 2016 - Settler Heritage Days (@ Lanark County Plowing Match)

August 20, 2016 -Legacy Farm recognition unveiling @ Lanark County Plowing Match (In collaboration with Drummond/North Elmsley) which will honour more than 80 farms in the two townships that have been in the same family for 100, 150 or 200 years

December 28, 2016 – Betwixt and Between Heritage Dinner Dance – Tay Valley Township

In addition, many local businesses and organizations in the area are planning 200th Anniversary themed events

For more details check out www.lanarkcountytourism.com www.tayvalleytwp.ca

or www.dnetownship.ca