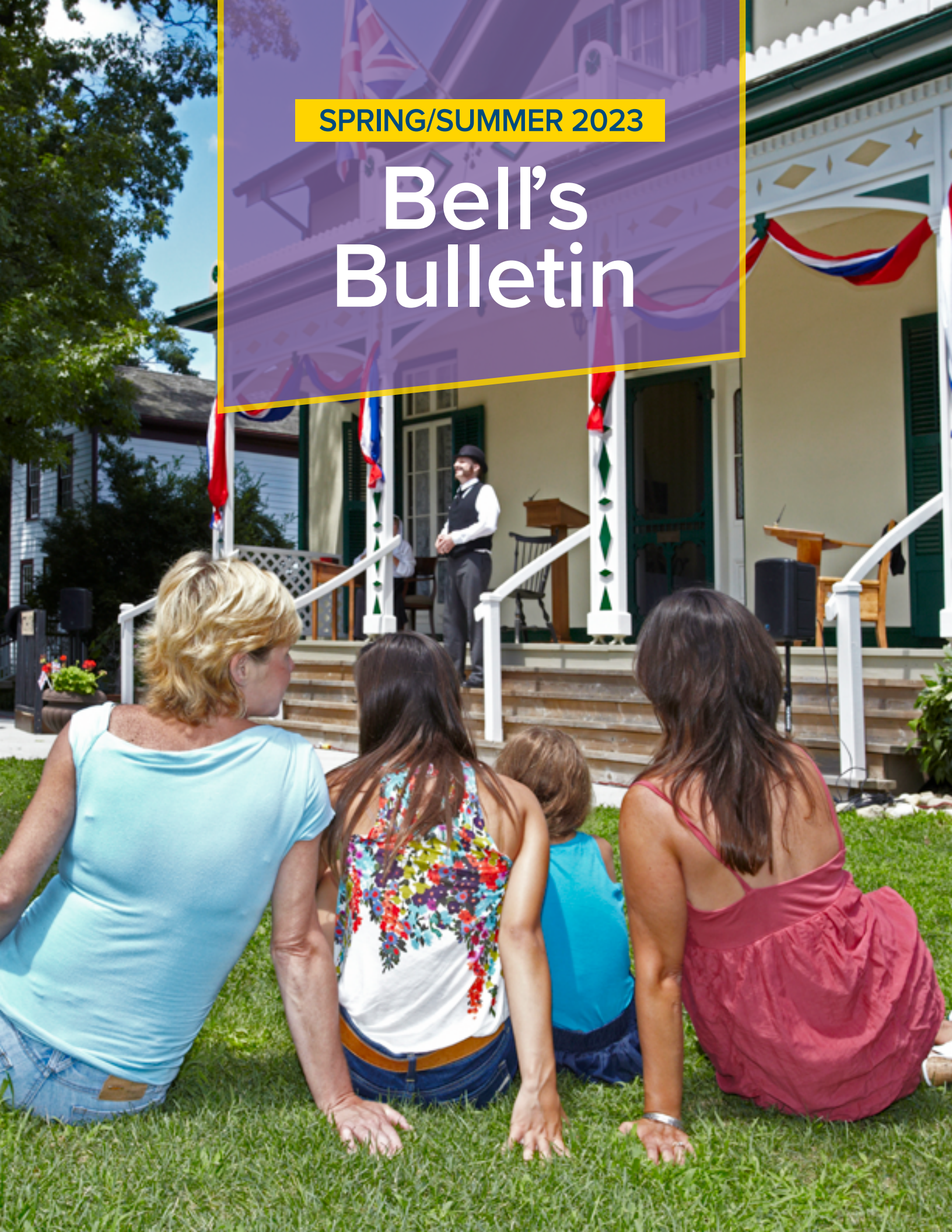


SPRING/SUMMER 2023

# Bell's Bulletin





# The invention of the telephone's 150th anniversary

As Queen Elizabeth II remarked during her visit to the Bell Homestead in 1997, “How could we live without the telephone?” Few people could answer that question. Most of us take for granted its existence in our homes, work places, and pockets. Without the discovery that Alexander Graham Bell made at his parent’s home on July 26, 1874, our ability to connect with each other might not as easily be at our fingertips as it is today.

2024 will be a year to remember in Brantford as we mark the 150th anniversary “Thanks 150 Mr. Bell!” of the invention of the telephone. Plans are in the works to celebrate the great inventor who gave so much to us through his genius, passion, and persistence. “Thanks 150 Mr. Bell” will be an opportunity for the entire community to show its pride as “The Telephone City”. Be sure to mark the weekend of July 26th on your calendar and stay tuned for updates on all things telephone!

## Tutela vs Tutelo

### What’s in a Name?

Tutela Heights is currently the name of the road and the neighbourhood that the Bell Homestead National Historic Site calls home. But that name is misspelled by one letter – the “a” on the end. In the Bells’ time, the area was called Tutelo Heights - Tutelo with an “o”. The street and neighbourhood were named for the Tutelo village that was located here from about 1785 to 1848. We would like to work toward returning the name of the street to Tutelo Heights Road and have an informational plaque on the Homestead grounds.



## A Brief History of the Tutelo Nation

The nation that has been called “Tutelo” since at least the 18th century was not originally part of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. They are one of the eastern Siouan Monacan nations and their traditional homelands is what is now Virginia and West Virginia in the United States. The people known as Tutelo when they arrived in Brant County were actually an alliance of two nations who called themselves the Nahyssan, made of the Yesang and the Monasukaponough. The Haudenosaunee called these two nations the Todero and the Saponi, which Europeans transcribed as Tutelo and Saponi.

Until about 1714, the Nahyssan lived in small villages in the present-day state of Virginia in the United States. A typical Nahyssan house was a short version of a long house – it was loaf-shaped with a wood pole frame, bark exterior, thatched roof with a smoke hole and a central hearth. Villages consisted of groups of these houses surrounded by log palisades. Near each village were gardens of corn, beans, and squash and orchards of cherry and peach trees. They also hunted for game in the forests, fished in the rivers, and foraged for wild berries, nuts, greens, and tubers.

In 1722, the Nahyssans, or Tutelo as the Haudenosaunee called them, became tributaries of the Haudenosaunee. The Tutelo officially became part of the Cayuga “castle” in 1753 at that year’s Great Council of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. The Tutelo slowly moved northward to Haudenosaunee territory, first to what is now Pennsylvania, and then to the Finger Lakes regions of New York State. This was Cayuga territory. The Tutelos’ main village was called Coreogonel and was located on Lake Cayuga, near the Buttermilk Falls.

When the American Revolution officially started in 1785, the Cayuga, Onondaga, Seneca, Tuscarora, and their tributaries decided to remain neutral.

George Washington, head of the American army, ordered the destruction of the Confederacy’s villages and crops. The Sullivan-Clinton campaign of August and September 1779 destroyed all the villages and crops, including those of the Tutelo.



▶ *Nikonha, or Washinga, the supposed “Last Full-blood Tutelo”.*

## The Tutelo Village at Tutelo Heights

Sometime between 1785 and 1790, 200 Tutelos established their new village on the Stewart-Ruggles Tract, then known as the Johnson Family Tract. Kegnneghtago Brant Johnson and his family were Mohawk. At this time, they were still living at Niagara-on-the-Lake, so they likely had the Tutelos build there so as to prevent any squatters on their land. The village probably resembled the villages they had once had in the United States. There were small bark houses or cabins spread out around a central longhouse. There were probably fruit trees and vegetable gardens. The village probably had a name, but it does not seem to have been recorded. The tract became the Stewart-Ruggles Tract when Jemima Johnson Stewart and Sarah Johnson Ruggles were given the land by their father.

Unfortunately, the Tutelos only stayed at this site for about 40 to 50 years. The Brantford area was hit hard in 1832 by the second Asiatic cholera pandemic of 1826 to 1837. Only 40 of the Tutelo villagers survived. Then another epidemic arrived in the area in 1848. This time it was ship fever, or epidemic typhus, that devastated the village. The disease had arrived in Canada with the arrival of famine refugees from Ireland. The few Tutelos to survive decided to move to the Six Nations Reserve. After the Tutelos moved, Mrs. Stewart’s son and daughters began selling pieces to white settlers. All that remains of the Tutelo presence are a few archaeological artifacts and the name of the street and neighbourhood. Due to mispronunciation over the years, the name morphed from Tutelo to Tutela Heights.

Although white ethnologists and anthropologists have often stated that the Tutelo and their language are now extinct, this is probably not the case. This is because, until recently, settler academics and government officials didn’t accept the Tutelo concept of matrilineal descent, and only recognized paternal descent. It is our hope that those that our neighbourhood took its name from may be honoured appropriately with the correct spelling of their name. We would like to involve the descendants of the old village inhabitants with the help of our colleagues at Woodland Cultural Centre.

# Hugh Bell Muller – A True Gentleman



■ *Hugh Bell Muller bringing greetings on behalf of the Bell Descendants at the re-opening of the Bell Homestead on June 10, 1995.*

At the end of 2022, not only did the Bell Homestead lose one of its most ardent supporters and long-standing members, the world lost one of the most kind-hearted, loving and generous people. Hugh Bell Muller passed away on December 13th, just shy of his 91st birthday, bidding farewell for now to his wife, Jeanne, son, Marc and his wife, Nancy, grandchildren Andrew, Sophie, Luke and Eliza, a host of nieces, nephews and cousins, and many, many who loved him as family, friend, colleague and mentor.

Hugh was born in Geneva, Switzerland in 1932, the son of Barbara Fairchild Muller and Leonard Muller, grandson of Marian Bell Fairchild and David Grandison Fairchild, and great-grandson of Alexander Graham Bell and Mabel Hubbard Bell. His first visit to North America was to spend the summer at Beinn Bhreagh, the family home near Baddeck, Cape Breton. He immigrated to the United States at age 3 and grew up in Coconut Grove, Florida.

As a young man he served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and became a graduate of the University of Miami with a degree in Biological Sciences. He began his career in conservation, working as a warden and later a guide for the National Audubon Society. With the National Park Service he worked as a Park Ranger Naturalist at Everglades, Great Smoky Mountains, and Virgin Islands National Parks as well as Blue Ridge Parkway and National Capital Parks in Washington D.C. Hugh became Director of the National Parks Seminars, a cooperative program between Parks Canada, U.S. National Parks Service, and the University of Michigan. He served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the School of Natural Resources and Environment of the University of Michigan before retiring.

Hugh's interest in the Bell Homestead was truly sparked when he and Jeanne, Marc and Nancy visited in 1995 to attend the re-opening of the site after 8 months of restoration work. Two years later, they were invited back, along with the newest member of the family – 7-week old Andrew, to represent the Bell descendants during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II at the Homestead in 1997. It was the first time since Alexander Graham Bell had been presented to Queen Victoria in 1878 that the Bell family and the Royal family came together.

So impressed was Hugh with the changes that he saw at the Homestead since his first visit many years earlier, that he readily accepted a position with the Bell Homestead Committee, representing the Bell Descendants. He served with the committee, becoming a great champion of the museum's programs, providing advice, and great encouragement. He and Jeanne have also been tremendous benefactors, supporting many projects and providing one of the museum's most prized artifacts – Eliza Bell's original portrait of her three sons, Melly, Aleck, and Ted. Hugh passed-on his position with the committee to his cousins in 2005 when he and Jeanne decided to retire to their favourite place, Cape Breton.

Hugh and Jeanne became the first permanent Bell family residents in Baddeck. Their love for the village shone through and in 2011 it was the community that sponsored them for Canadian citizenship. Over the years they have participated in a wealth of local organizations, including the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site. Hugh was an integral leader in the celebrations for the 100th Anniversary of the Flight of the Silver Dart in 2009. But it is as their alter-egos, Santa and Mrs. Claus, for who many know the Mullers best.

With his kindness and compassion, Hugh truly was Santa. He had a calm demeanor that could ease debates or disagreements. With a few thought provoking words he could shed light on a situation that seemed impossible. Hugh was the voice of reason. That voice may be silent now, but he has left behind an abundance of wisdom and love for those whose lives he touched.



# 2023 Special Events

## Eliza's Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Join us for an elegant afternoon at the Bell Homestead with a scrumptious assortment of tea sandwiches, scones and desserts. Mimosa cocktails will be served as a special treat. Take a tour of Eliza Bell's 1870's home with the Brant 4-H Club as we celebrate Alexander Graham Bell's mother along with all of our moms! Ticket includes museum admission. \$45.00 per person, children ages 8 and under cost \$15.00 per child (including tax). Call us or email us for tickets.

Sunday, May 14 at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

## May is Museum Month Open House

Join us for a complimentary tour of the Bell Homestead as we celebrate International Museums Day! Call us or email us to pre-book a tour.

Saturday, May 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## 28th Annual Barn Sale

You'll find lots of great bargains at our annual sale including household items, furniture, clothing and oddities galore. Admission is free with exception to cost of purchased items. Proceeds from the sale benefit our annual community special events. Have items to donate? You can drop off your donations at the Bell Homestead or call 519-756-6220 or email us to arrange pick-up.

Saturday, May 27 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

## Summer Serenade Concert

We kick off our Summer Music Series with an outdoor performance featuring the Brantford Memorial Concert Band, within the unique and picturesque setting of the Bell Homestead. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the concert. Donations are accepted for this free outdoor event in support of the Brantford School of Instrumental Music.

Saturday, June 24 at 7:00 p.m. (Rain date held on Sunday, June 27 at 3:00p.m.)

## Bell Summer Theatre Festival

Outdoor theatre returns to the Bell Homestead. Join this talented group of thespians as they present two locally-written productions – Pinocchio and Ghosts of the Titanic. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the show. Admission is by donation. Go to [branttheatre.com](http://branttheatre.com) for specific dates and show times.

July 7 to August 6

## Symphony Under the Stars

This outdoor performance features the Brantford Community Symphony Orchestra. You'll enjoy classical music loved by the Bell family and a few modern favourites. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the concert. Donations are accepted for this free event in support of the Brantford School of Instrumental Music.

Thursday, August 24 at 7:00p.m. (Rain date held on Friday, August 25)

## Time to Sing

We bid farewell to August with an outdoor concert by the Brant County singers. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the afternoon with these wonderful voices. Admission by donation with all proceeds supporting the Brant County Singers.

Sunday, August 27 from 3:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.

## Coffee House at the Café

Join us on the front porch of the Exchange Café for an evening of smooth music and good eats. Prepare to be jazzed in 1960's fashion by the groovy sounds of Brantford's Pleasant Ridge. Tickets are \$30.00 each. Call us to purchase your tickets.

Saturday, September 9 at 7:00p.m.



# 2023 Summer Day Camps

Planning for summer day camps is underway. Once again, we will offer two weeks in July and two weeks in August. As always, we combine creativity and fun with science and history.

## July – A Bell Family Celebration

Celebrate with the Bell family during this fun week of day camp! We'll make crafts, play games, and make food every day. Each day has a new theme based on a holiday or special occasion that Alexander or his family celebrated.

**Week 1: Hogmanay to Victoria Day** – July 3 to July 7

**Week 2: Dominion Day to Christmas** – July 10 to July 13

## August – Celebrate Around The World

Did you know that Alexander Graham Bell started the National Geographic magazine and gave it the mandate of exploring “the world and all that’s in it”? Take a trip around the world and celebrate during this fun week of day camp! We'll make crafts, play games, and make food every day. We learn about a new region of the world every day through cultural celebrations.

**Week 1: Celebrate Around The World: Asia, Africa, Central and South America, the Caribbean**  
– August 21 to August 25

**Week 2: Celebrate Around The World: Europe, Australia and New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, North America**  
– August 28 to September 1

Ages 4 to 12

Cost: \$155 per week per child

Camps run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free extended care is available from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. and from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Registration opens on April 12th, 2022. Please go to The City of Brantford's ActiveNet online registration system at <https://anc.ca.apm.activecommunities.com/brantford> or call us at the Bell Homestead at (519) 756-6220.

## 2022-23 Bell Homestead Committee

### Executive:

Chair: Marty Hahn (Bell Volunteers)

Vice Chair: Sylvia Chupka (2 year)

Secretary & Past Chair: Linda Guest – County of Brant  
Elsie Myers Martin – Bell Descendants

Hugh Bell Muller – Bell Descendants (Honorary)

Janie Theoret – Bell Canada

Nancy Browning (3 year)

Steve Gjorkes (1 year)

Evan Habkirk (1 year)

### Site Staff

Brian Wood – Curator

Sarah Hamilton – Assistant Curator

Jillian Page – Museum Assistant (to November, 2022)

Addison Chupka and Hannah Mills Calnan

– Historical Interpreters

Aaron Wallace – Director of Community Programs  
and Social Development



## Just a Reminder

All annual Bell Homestead Society memberships are due on July 1st of each year. 2023 notices will be sent out soon. Thank you to all of our members. Your support goes a long way to helping us provide our programs and services!

## 2023-24 Membership Rates

Senior/Student (annual)	\$30
Family (annual)	\$45
Corporate/Institutional (annual)	\$260
Life Member	\$400

# In Mrs. Bell's Kitchen

Cooking and baking have become something of a tradition in our day camps and education programs. Food is an excellent way to connect with other times and other cultures. We were able to cook and bake again in 2022. For the July camp, we made a different food from each decade, focusing on newly introduced or trendy items.

During the Bells' time, there were also new foods and food trends. During her lifetime, Eliza Bell would have seen the introductions of many pre-packaged foods that we have today, like Peek Freans biscuits, custard powder, Tabasco sauce, and packaged rolled oats. She also might have made some of the trendy new recipes, such as fruit salad, chicken salad, and stalks of celery stuffed with fillings.

I don't think Eliza would recognize the recipe I chose for the 1960s day, as she wouldn't have been familiar with tortilla chips. Taco salad became quite popular in the 1960s, thanks to the spread of Tex-Mex cuisine through North America. Tex-Mex began to emerge in Texas during the 1940s, as Mexican restaurant owners began creating recipes based on their traditional foods, but retooled for the mid-century American palate. In the 1950s and '60s, fast-food Tex-Mex restaurants began to pop up across the United States. Taco Bell was one of these, and owner Glen Bell (no relation to our Bells!) is credited with creating taco salad in 1962. Variations of his recipe were published in magazines and newspapers in the 1960s, so even though Canada didn't have Taco Bell or other Tex Mex fast food places until the 1980s, Canadians still could have tried out this recipe. The campers replaced the tomato sauce in the recipe with salsa. Salsa wasn't readily available in supermarkets at the time, but is now a staple in most households.

## Taco Salad

From Sunset Magazine, 1968

1 pound of lean ground beef

¼ cup of finely chopped onions

½ tsp of salt

2 tsp of chili pepper

1 8-ounce can of tomato sauce

1 medium head of ice berg lettuce

½ cup of shredded cheese

2 medium-sized tomatoes,  
peeled and cut into wedges

1 avocado, peeled and sliced

1 and ½ cup corn chips

1. Fry the meat and onions over medium high heat until the meat is brown and the onion is tender. Stir in the salt, chili powder, and tomato sauce.
2. Shred the lettuce and arrange on individual salad plates. Top each plate with the meat mixture and the cheese. Arrange on each plate the tomato wedges and the avocado slices. Arrange chips on the side.







The Exchange  
*Café*

## The Smell of Freshly-Baked Apple Dapple Cake is in the Air!



The Exchange Café opens for the season on **Tuesday, May 2**. Never fear! The Apple Dapple Cake and a host of delicious baked goods will be here! Don't forget to stop in for ice cream on those hot summer days. Take out will be available.

**Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

FULLY LICENSED | CALL 519-756-6220 FOR RESERVATIONS





## Bell Homestead

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

### BELL HOMESTEAD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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[www.bellhomestead.ca](http://www.bellhomestead.ca)

The Bell Homestead National Historic Site is operated by the City of Brantford, Community Programs and Social Development. Funding assistance is generously provided by Bell Canada, the County of Brant, the City of Brantford, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, the Alexander and Mabel Bell Legacy Foundation, and Bell Family Descendants.