

**T**he Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society meets monthly between September and May to hear and to discuss individual papers about personalities, places, and events integral to the history of Nova Scotia.

For more information about the Society, including a list of publications available, visit our website at:

[RNSHS.CA](http://RNSHS.CA)

## The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society



Schedule of Meetings  
Fall 2022

**S**ince the establishment of the Society in 1878, 44 volumes of the Society's *Collections* have been published. In 1998, the Society began publication of the *Journal* of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society, a successor to both the *Collections* and the *Nova Scotia Historical Review*. It is published annually, and Society members receive a copy as well as notification of the Society's lecture series and general meetings.

### Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society Publications Price List

	Members	Non-Members
Current Issue of <i>Journal</i>	Free	\$30 Canada \$35 USA \$40 International \$20 Student
Back issues of <i>Journal</i> (plus postage)	\$15	\$20
Back issues of <i>Collections</i> (limited availability)		\$5 each

**T**o join the Society, or to order any publications, send a cheque or money order with this slip to:

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2622  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P7

You can also join on-line by visiting our website: [RNSHS.CA](http://RNSHS.CA)

Membership:  
\$30.00 Canada  
\$35.00 U.S.A.  
\$40.00 International  
\$20.00 Student

Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P7

# THE ROYAL NOVA SCOTIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lectures are typically held at 7:00 pm. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Society lectures are open to the public and are completely free, except for the RNSHS's annual banquet lecture. Please check our website, RNSHS.ca for details, including biographical information on all presenters. **Our lectures this season will be held at the Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, in the Lindsay Children's Room/BMO Room.** Please note that the December lecture is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

**September 21, 2022**     ***Activating Archives: Margaret Perry's Nova Scotia Promotional Films (1945-1969)***

7:00 pm

Jennifer VanderBurgh

Saint Mary's University

This talk is part of a week of screenings, exhibitions, and special events to mark the new, digital release of over 50 films made between 1945-1969 by Nova Scotia government filmmaker, Margaret Perry. These promotional films are complex artefacts that articulate and reflect understandings of government policies, cultural discourses, as well as Perry's own perspectives and artistic voice. Jennifer VanderBurgh's research reframes and animates these 'government films' and encourages us to expand our understandings of their significance. This lecture will introduce the collection, the process and ethical considerations of activating it, as well as the discovery of new materials that bring more information to light about Perry's artistic development and filmmaking practice.

**October 19, 2022**     ***Maligomish: Roman Catholicism and the Persistence of Mi'kmaw Culture***

7:00 pm

Colin Osmond

Mount Saint Vincent University/University of British Columbia

Every year on July 26th, Mi'kmaq travel to Maligomish to attend Saint Anne's Day – a Roman Catholic tradition honouring the Mi'kmaq's patron saint. But the Mission is much more than a Catholic Holy Day. For centuries, Mi'kmaq have gathered at Maligomish for a series of important political meetings and cultural events. The continuity of Mi'kmaq traditions highlights Mi'kmaw agency and cultural persistence – despite enormous colonial pressure to 'assimilate' in the 19th and 20th Centuries.

**November 16, 2022**     ***Early White Audience Reactions to Blackface Performances on Halifax Stages (1830s-1860s)***

7:00 pm

Nicole Neatby

Saint Mary's University

Reviews in Halifax newspapers reveal that blackface performances provoked mixed reactions between the late 1830s when they first appeared and the 1860s. While these shows were clearly popular from the outset among many Haligonians, those who published reviews were highly critical in the early decades. However, it didn't take long for reviewers' assessments to evolve. By the 1860s, the derision had subsided and blackface shows gained favour as a form of acceptable mainstream entertainment. This lecture will explore the reasons behind this shift and to what extent these reactions can offer some insights into white Haligonians' attitudes towards race and class.

**December 14, 2022**     ***"The Students are getting very restless": Student Power at the Provincial Normal School, 1869 - 1879***

7:00 pm

John Grant

In 1869, Alexander Forrester, the founding principal of the Provincial Normal School, Truro, NS, died in office. The provincial government replaced him with a colleague who had taught at the school since 1855. Within two months, however, he was removed from office and another was appointed. In 1879, two professors at the school were replaced. In both cases it was student voice and student action that precipitated change. This paper examines the two cases and considers the interwoven roles of politics in the Confederation era and the politics of education and religion in the satisfaction of student demands.