



Pickering Museum Village Foundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From Dad with Love

The simple handmade wooden memento box, lovingly carved and inscribed by a father to his daughter, 172 years ago has returned to Pickering and is the focal point of the new exhibition "A Family Story". Mayor Dave Ryan opened the exhibit on Sunday, May 30 with special guests Ron Van Horne, collector and donor; Dr. John Carter, Museum Advisor with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture and Darryl Withrow, PMV Woodwright. Asahel Hawley Scott's trinket or memento box with dove-tailed corners and a sliding lid will be on display until December at Pickering Museum Village, Greenwood.

Several years ago, Lambton County collector Ron Van Horne purchased the box, and looked for the right museum to house it. Dr. Carter felt that Scott's ties to Pickering Township meant that Pickering Museum Village was the most appropriate museum and facilitated the donation earlier this year. After visiting PMV on Sunday, Mr. Van Horne was pleased with his choice and said "You have a wonderful facility and the staff and volunteers were friendly and well informed".

Darryl Withrow's extensive research and replicas of Rebellion Boxes led to collaboration on the book "From Hands Now Striving to be Free" with Chris Raible and Dr. John Carter.

This September will be the 15th year of the fascinating and entertaining look at local rebels and the Rebellion of 1837 in PMV's "A Spirit Walk". While it was known that some of the characters in this moving production made prisoners boxes, Asahel Hawley Scott and his box was exciting new information. Already Backwoods has integrated information about the Scotts and Asahel's box into this year's production.

Pat Dunnill, Chair of Pickering Museum Village Foundation, says staff and volunteers have done a wonderful and thorough job of researching and putting this exhibition together. The Foundation is delighted in being able to play a role in the interpretation of this unique piece of Pickering's history. For more information on the box, please call the museum village at 905 683 8401 or visit PMVF's website <http://pmvf.ca/ScottRebellionBox.html>

-30-

For more information on the Rebellion Box, please contact Katrina Pyke, Coordinator, Museum Operations, kpyke@cityofpickering.com, 905 683 8401

For more information on PMVF please contact Pat Dunnill pat.dunnill@sympatico.ca

For more information on the donor of the box, Ron Van Horne contact vanhorne@xcelco.on.ca

... preserving Pickering's heritage for tomorrow.