About

The Frontenac County Schools Museum provides an authentic 1890s schoolroom experience and has a wide variety of artifacts on display, with activities for all ages. The mission of the Frontenac County Schools Museum is to deepen understanding of how education and life intersect in Ontario’s past. The museum is in the beautiful, historic village of Barriefield. The museum is managed by the Curator and a team of dedicated volunteers.

The Project

The FCSM is conducting an oral history project to capture a wide range of memories and stories of both students and educators who have experienced Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) during their education and/or career.

We will focus on the perceived invisibility of EDI and how students with disabilities were treated in their education. This could range from examining how people with disabilities were treated by classmates, how they were treated by educators, and how they were treated by school boards. We will also focus on how educators approached students with disabilities in their classrooms, paying particularly attention to how a teacher may have changed, or not changed their lesson plans, according to the abilities of their students. We will also seek to discover the types of levels of support teachers received from administration while working with students. As a result, we want to highlight the fact that education in Ontario was not equal and inclusive for many students who faced these challenges.

The intern will assist with the development of interview questions, pre- and post-interview meetings, and conducting interviews. This project will be an opportunity for the student to gain hands-on experience in museum research, especially in relation to an underrepresented community in education. We encourage the participation of diverse learners in the development of the project and conducting of interviews to encapsulate the "nothing about us, without us" motto.

This internship will require on-site work at the Museum. The schedule will be made with the Curator at the beginning of the internship.