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Museum of Health Care to present Quarantine Tent on Canada Day

(KINGSTON, ON)—On July 1, the Museum of Health Care will present the interactive *Quarantine Tent* at Artfest, in City Park.

The Quarantine Tent is a free drop-in educational event from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. offering visitors the opportunity to interact with ‘time-travellers’ from the past who are recovering from diseases such as diphtheria, polio, and smallpox. The volunteers will be dressed in period costumes with professional makeup simulating the diseases’ effects.

People of all ages including families and tourists will learn about the history of diseases, specifically how diseases have impacted people from the time of Confederation up to the present day. The public will also become informed about the medical breakthroughs of vaccination and prevention.

“The Quarantine Tent gives the opportunity to any visitor to come and learn more about the history of vaccines and immunization,” says Museum Curator Max Chouinard. “This completely independent program sets the record straight on a vital subject in today’s world.”

The Quarantine Tent is a grassroots effort that uses an interactive history-themed theatrical approach to communicate information about diseases, medical science, and vaccination. It was created by medical writer Pippa Wysong along with volunteers including medical writers, infectious diseases physicians and researchers, public health academics, and medical/public health historians.

“Many people are unaware of the powerful effects some diseases had on families and communities before the diseases were kept in check with vaccines. My grandfather was a public health doctor who started practice before vaccines were available, and saw firsthand the devastation wreaked by these infections. This event uses history to remind people of the impact of these diseases,” she said.

In partnership with Quarantine Tent, the Museum invites you to join in weaving together the past and present of health care.

This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between [Community Foundation for Kingston & Area](#), the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast.

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