



## **CNE Foundation to Receive Funding from 2025-2026 Library and Archives Canada Documentary Heritage Communities Program**

*Significant grant enables digitization and preservation of remaining 14,000 images from CNE's largest archival collection — completing a major effort to preserve CNE heritage and shared memory*

Toronto, ON – Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – The **Canadian National Exhibition Foundation** is pleased to be among the recipients of the 2025-2026 Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Documentary Heritage Communities Program (DHCP) for its project: *Preserving the Legacy of the Canadian National Exhibition: Digitizing Archival Images from the Alexandra Studio Collection 1981-1983*.

The \$93,503 DHCP grant enables the digitization, preservation and completion of archival photographic negatives of the Canadian National Exhibition's Alexandra Studio collection, the largest in the CNE Association's archival holdings. Public access to these culturally and historically significant images will be available through the CNE's archival database following completion of the two-year project.

"We are honoured to receive this funding from Library and Archives Canada. The CNE has long been a part of the cultural fabric of Toronto and surrounding communities, and this project will help preserve its 145-year heritage through photographs and artifacts, making it more widely accessible to current and future generations," noted Randy Bauslaugh, CNE Foundation President and Chair.

The CNE portion of the Alexandra Studio Fond consists of 109,032 cellulose acetate photo negatives and captures a visual record of the iconic Canadian National Exhibition event through the years 1947 to 1983. This CNE Foundation DHCP project focuses on a selection of the images, from the years 1981 to 1983, which represents the remaining 14,000 images in the collection.

"We are grateful to Library and Archives Canada for this meaningful contribution. It brings us to a turning point in our *CNE Archives Project*. With Phase 1 now largely funded, we're excited to turn our attention to Phase 2 – fundraising for a public exhibition of the digitized images at the CNE, potentially aligned with the CNE's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2029," said Joanne Benerowski, CNE Foundation Executive Director.

Members of the public wishing to contribute a financial gift in support of the *CNE Archives Project* can do so at: [cnefoundation.com/donate](https://cnefoundation.com/donate).

### **Library and Archives Canada quotation:**

"My heartfelt congratulations to all the recipients! Your dedication to documenting and preserving your community's history is truly commendable. It brings me much joy to see how LAC is able to support amazing projects like yours through yearly funding. Now, more than ever, it's essential for LAC and communities across Canada to stay committed to making our shared stories accessible to everyone."  
—Leslie Weir, Librarian and Archivist of Canada

**About the CNE Foundation:**

The Canadian National Exhibition Foundation is a public foundation and registered charity. The philanthropic arm of the Canadian National Exhibition Association, we support programs that extend the community spirit and legacy of the CNEA to create meaningful opportunities and lasting benefits for those we serve. To learn more about CNE Foundation programs, or to donate, please visit: [cnefoundation.com](http://cnefoundation.com). Charitable Business Number: 118834639 RR 0001

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