

## BURA Executive

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## Upcoming Events

**September 19, 2025**

### Steel Blade Classic

with *Brock vs Guelph Gryphons*  
at Meridian Centre

Arrive: 6:30pm

**October 28, 2025**

### Vanished Beyond the Map, The Mystery of Lost Explorer Hubert Darrell

with *Adam Shoalts*  
at Ruby Carroll Hall, Trillium United Church  
Co-sponsored by Lifelong Learning Niagara  
Arrive: 9:30am for talk at 10am

**November, 19 2025**

### Mapping the Historic Welland Canals one lock at a time: My Stories

with *Colleen Beard*  
at Holiday Inn  
Arrive: 11:30am for lunch at noon

**December 9, 2025**

### BURA Holiday Celebration

Arrive: 11:30am for lunch at noon

### BURA Coffee Club

at the Courtyard Bar and Grill,

Arrive: 9:30am



**September 10, 2025**

**October 14, 2025**

**November 10, 2025**

**December 18, 2025**

# Member News



## In Memoriam



In sorrow, and with respect, BURA observes the passing of the following members:

Margaret Boyle, April 25, 2025  
Michael Manley-Casimir, June 7, 2025  
Gordon Coggins, June 21, 2025  
Ray Birmingham, June 30, 2025  
William MacDonald, July 4, 2025  
Marian Walsh, July 23, 2025

## New BURA Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Nancy Birmingham (Ray Birmingham, *Printing Services*)  
Lesa Mansfield, *Pre-Service Faculty of Education, Sociology*  
Richard Mitchell, *Child and Youth Studies*  
Beth Natale, *Undergraduate Recruitment*  
Clara Suba, *Dept of Digital Humanities*

**Do you have any news that you would like to share with the BURA membership?**

WE would be pleased to review any member news submitted on the webform at:  
<https://brocku.ca/retirees-association/contact-us/>

# Past Events

## Brock University Update

with *Lesley Rigg*

THE event went very well. The president brought the university's CFO, Josh Tonnos, along to provide the financial information. Kim Post, on behalf of Brock University, left us a \$1500 cheque to support our activities.

We thank Brock University for sponsoring this event and arranging lunch.

## Annual General Meeting

TERRY Varcoe presented his pension report. He is BURA's representative on the Pension Committee which is an advisory committee reporting to the Financial Planning and Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees of Brock University. The Committee does not have any input with regard to investment decisions.

## Spirit in Niagara Distillery Tour, Tasting and Lunch



Spirit in Niagara Distillery



Still Room



Barrel Room

**Avoid missing out on BURA Newsletters and Event Notices**

MAKE sure we are kept apprised of any revisions to your e-mail or home address. Please email any changes to: Pat Cane [BURAMembership@outlook.com](mailto:BURAMembership@outlook.com)

# Upcoming Events

**September 19, 2025**

## Steel Blade Classic

at the *Meridian Centre*

THE Steel Blade Classic is an annual event during Homecoming Weekend that was first held in 1999. This year, the Brock Men's Hockey Team and the Guelph Gryphons will compete for the Steel Blade Trophy, a sword commemorating the War of 1812.

Alumni receive:

- VIP access to the exclusive 4th floor section of the Meridian Centre.
- Premium bird's-eye view seating
- Access to a private bar
- Complimentary stadium-style snacks

### Event Details:

Time : 6:30pm

Venue: *Meridian Centre*, 1 David S. Howes Way, St Catharines

**October 28, 2025**

## Vanished Beyond the Map, The Mystery of Lost Explorer Hubert Darrell

with *Adam Shoalts*

at the *Ruby Carroll Hall, Trillium United Church*

ADVENTURER Adam Shoalts joins us to share the story of his latest expedition, his quest to retrace the route of lost explorer Hubert Darrell, who vanished in Canada's western Arctic in 1910. Shoalts' newest book, *Vanished Beyond the Map*, unravels the mystery of Darrell's disappearance. This lecture is co-sponsored by **Lifelong Learning Niagara** and Brock University Retirees' Association.

### Event Details:

Time : 9:30am for talk at 10am

Venue: *Ruby Carroll Hall, Trillium United Church*, 415 Linwell Rd, St. Catharines

**November, 19 2025**

## **Mapping the Historic Welland Canals one lock at a**

### **time: My Stories**

with *Colleen Beard*

at the *Holiday Inn*

ENJOY an illustrated tour of the historic canals while Colleen Beard demonstrates how to use the [Historic Welland Canals Mapping Project](#) (HWCMP) to optimize the user experience, describes the best hiking routes, and recounts stories of terrorist attacks and other interesting finds. Participants will take away a better understanding of canal history they can explore on their own, from both an armchair and on the ground.

Colleen Beard is Map Librarian Emerita, Brock University. She holds a BSc degree in Physical Geography and Geology from Brock with a concentration in the cartographic sciences, and a Masters of Library and Information Science from University of Toronto.



Colleen Beard

#### **Event Details:**

Time : 11:30am for lunch at noon,

Venue: *Holiday Inn*, 327 Ontario St, St. Catharines

**December 9, 2025**

## **BURA Holiday Celebration**

JOIN your BURA friends and colleagues for some holiday cheer and live entertainment. More details will become available at a later date.

#### **Event Details:**

Time : 11:30am for lunch at noon,

Venue: *Club Roma*, 125 Vansickle Road, St. Catharines, ON

## BURA Coffee Club



following dates at the *Courtyard Bar and Grill*

**September 10, 2025**

**October 14, 2025**

**November 10, 2025**

**December 18, 2025**

**G**OOD news! The monthly coffee club will continue to be in-person gatherings this fall at a new location, the *Courtyard Bar and Grill*, 2 Dunlop Drive (beside Comfort Inn), St. Catharines., starting at 9:30am.

Please save the above dates. We hope to see you there!



## Other Events

### CURAC Blog – Sleep

College and University Retiree Associations of Canada

Given that we spend one third of our lives sleeping, it is surprising that medical science ignored it until the late 20th century. From 1900 to 1949, only 12 published papers mentioned sleep. But from 1950 to the present, there have been more than 300,000 papers on sleep.

For more information visit <https://curac.ca/en/blog/sleep>

#### Volunteers Needed

**T**HIS is an interesting and rewarding activity where small groups work together to organize events and complete other BURA activities. The Executive can always use new volunteers, whose talents and ideas are needed. Contact Hilary Findlay or any current member of the Executive for more information.

Please let us know by e-mail to:

Hilary Findlay [BURAPresident@gmail.com](mailto:BURAPresident@gmail.com)



## LLN – Fall Lecture Series 2025

Tuesdays, 10 am to noon.  
Registration opens September 30  
at <https://llniagara.ca>  
3 In-Person and 2 Zoom Lectures

In-person at Ruby Carroll Hall,  
Trillium United Church,  
415 Linwell Rd., St. Catharines  
\$75 for 5 lectures, or \$20 for  
Individual lectures

**October 28<sup>th</sup> – Vanished Beyond the Map: The Mystery of Lost Explorer Hubert Darrell**  
(In-person, no recording)

*Adam Shoalts, PhD, National Bestselling Author and Professional Adventurer,*

Looking for adventure! Join Adam as he shares his latest expedition in his quest to retrace the route of lost explorer Hubert Darrell, who vanished in Canada's western Arctic in 1910.

**November 4<sup>th</sup> – Resiliency Strategies to Overcome Challenges Facing the Grape and Wine Sector** (In-person)

*Debbie Inglis, PhD, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Brock University; Director, Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute,*

Learn about the challenges the Canadian grape and wine sector faces, and how they are beating the odds to ensure a sustainable industry for the future.

**November 10<sup>th</sup> – Crime, War, and Hollywood: How Detective Fiction Was Invented**  
(In-person, on Monday)

*Neta Gordon, PhD, Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, Brock University*  
Discover the influence of Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie and other writers in the development of detective fiction as a distinctive subgenre of crime fiction.

**November 18<sup>th</sup> – Preparing for a Fiery Future: Transformative Thinking for Canadian Wildfire** (Zoom)

*Eric Kennedy, PhD, Professor, Disaster & Emergency Management, School of Administrative Studies, York University; Editor-in-Chief, Canadian Journal of Emergency Management; Director, Emergency, Mitigation, Engagement, Governance, Response Institute (Y-EMERGE), York University,*

Learn about the significant impacts that fire has on communities and what strategies need to be adapted to meet these challenges.

**November 25<sup>th</sup> – Threats to Canada's Arctic Sovereignty** (Zoom)

*Michael Byers, PhD, Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law, University of British Columbia,*

Did you know that 40 percent of Canada is Arctic? With only 300 Canadian Forces personnel based in the Canadian Arctic, is Canada vulnerable? What are the threats to Canada's territorial sovereignty? Join a discussion with Michael, who has been working on Arctic sovereignty and security issues for more than two decades.