



## **Volunteers to Pioneers! The local community to live the pioneer life this summer in Grey Roots Heritage Village – Moreston**

**For Immediate Release – February 13, 2008**

Volunteers will be in for a unique experience when they join Grey Roots Museum & Archives for the summer season. **Grey Roots will be opening the Heritage Village – Moreston as a living history site** starting June 28, 2008.

People remember visiting the former Grey County Museum site when the period buildings were open and interpreted seasonally. In that historic village, visitors met characters that told stories and demonstrated traditional trades from Grey County's past. Mrs. O'Hara was a personal favourite with many visitors.

Seven of the period buildings were moved from the Grey County Museum to Moreston in 2006. These buildings were repaired, given new roofs, and artefacts were carefully placed back in the buildings. In 2007, Grey Roots offered tours of the buildings and site to the public. This summer, volunteers from the community will don authentic period costumes and share with visitors the stories and activities from pioneer days.

Some of the ways Moreston volunteers will bring history to life and provide visitors the opportunity to step back in time are:

- **Storytelling** - volunteers will explain and demonstrate details of village life - they will explain how people lived, worked and played in years past;
- **Demonstrating** – volunteers will engage in traditional trades include blacksmithing, spinning and gardening
- **Wearing period costumes** - volunteers will be dressed in clothing representing the time period of the building they are in, rural Grey County in the 1850s and 1920s. Grey Roots needs volunteers to sew these period costumes.

Moreston volunteers will be offered training in Grey County history, public speaking methods, period costuming, period vegetable and herb gardening, as well as craft and trades training such as spinning and blacksmithing. Community members who will most enjoy this volunteer program will love learning, history, and enjoy interacting directly with visitors from near and far.

In addition to training and interacting with others in Moreston, volunteers can take advantage of the many other benefits of volunteering at Grey Roots. Volunteers are able to visit Grey Roots free of charge after 20 completed hours of service, receive discounts in the gift shop, are covered by insurance while on duty, and can make new friends and celebrate their successes at volunteer appreciation events. Most importantly, they have the satisfaction of seeing Grey County's history preserved, shared and enjoyed through their efforts.

Many opportunities remain for all aspiring volunteers, 14 years or older. All interested can contact Stephanie McMullen for more information at 519-376-3690, ex. 107.

**About Grey Roots Museum & Archives:** Grey Roots Museum & Archives has grown and developed into a unique facility from the County Museum's beginning in 1955 and the later establishment of a County Archives in 2000 in order to promote and preserve the heritage of Grey County. With the consolidation of the Grey County Museum, Grey County Archives, and Tourism in 2004, Grey Roots has become a multi-faceted attraction. Innovative and informative interpretive programs and demonstrations, rotating exhibits, a heritage village, archival resources and superior customer service come together to create an exciting and educational visitor experience.

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Grey Roots Museum & Archives  
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