



Alexander Graham Bell  
National Historic Site

# 2017 Activity Guide

Where Inventions Take Flight



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

Canada

# How To Reach Us

## Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

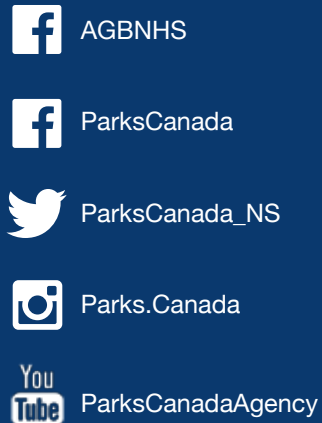


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[www.parkscanada.gc.ca/ns](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/ns)

## Follow Us



## Hours of Operation

May 19, 2017 – October 30, 2017  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

**FSC FPO**



## Where Air Meets Water

A full-scale replica of the Silver Dart was built by the “Aerial Experiment Association 2005” in commemoration of the original’s 1909 flight – the first controlled, powered airplane flight in Canada. The replica was flown by former astronaut Bjarni Tryggvason across Baddeck Bay in February 2009; now it soars high over the full-scale replica of Bell’s HD-4 hydrofoil! Exhibits complement these two wonderful examples of transportation history.

## Welcome to Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

Imagine when global communication and travel as we know them were just a dream. How did we move from that reality to one where communication is instantaneous and globetrotting is an everyday event? Alexander Graham Bell was a communication and transportation pioneer, as well as a teacher, family man and humanitarian.

Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site is an architecturally unique exhibit complex where models, replicas, photo displays, artifacts and films describe the fascinating life and work of Alexander Graham Bell. Programs such as our White Glove Tours complement the exhibits at the Site, which is situated on 10 hectares of land overlooking Baddeck Bay and Beinn Bhreagh peninsula, the location of the Bells’ summer home.

### In the Words of Bell, a Born Inventor

*“Wealth and fame are coveted by all men, but the hope of wealth or the desire for fame will never make an inventor ... you may take away all that he has, and he will go on inventing. He can no more help inventing than he can help thinking or breathing. Inventors are born not made.”*

– Alexander Graham Bell



## Top 5 Experiences

- 1 Hold history in your hands on a **White Glove Tour**.
- 2 Discover the Alec and Mabel Bell story in the **Alec and I** program.
- 3 Fly a kite you built in our **Come Fly a Kite** workshop.
- 4 Challenge yourself to build a **Tetrahedral Kite** during our workshop.
- 5 **Take a Seat and Take a Tour** for an introduction of the site with photos and anecdotes.



## Join the Celebration!

This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation, and also commemorates 100 years of national historic sites – 2017 is the perfect time to experience the rich history of Canada!

Check out the complete list of events online: [parkscanada.gc.ca/bell](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/bell)  
Facebook: AGBNHS

## EVENTS

July	
1	Canada Day
15	Parks Day
August	
20	Aviation Day
September	
8-24	The Young Ladies of Baddeck Club (theatre)
16	Harvest Home
October	
9-13	Celtic Colours – Bell Series

## Hidden Gems

Make unexpected discoveries or enjoy the magnificent view from less crowded areas.

View the beautiful Bras d'Or Lake from our rooftop patio and see the new Mi'kmaw interpretive panels. Bring your picnic!

Look for the Big Book From Baddeck - the story of Alexander Graham Bell, written and illustrated by five year olds.

Check out the light-table map in the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve Exhibit.

Borrow one of our colourful kites to fly in the fresh Cape Breton breeze.

Seek out our red chairs and take the time to connect with nature - with history - with friends and family. #ShareTheChair #TimeToConnect



## Discover Parks Canada!

2017 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canadian Confederation and we invite you to celebrate with Parks Canada! Take advantage of free admission to national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas for the entire year.

Get curious about Canada's unique natural treasures, hear stories about Indigenous cultures, and celebrate the centennial of Canada's national historic sites with us. Find adventure, fun for the whole family or a short break from the everyday in more than 200 special places across the country.



CANADA 150

# Program Schedule

		English	French
<b>Take a Seat and Take a Tour</b>	July and August	9:15 am, 11:30 am, 3:15 pm	10:45 am
	September	9:30 am, 3:15 pm	10:30 am
	October 1 – 15	9:30 am, 3:15 pm	2:00 pm
<b>White Glove Tour</b>	June	2:00 pm	on demand
	July and August	10:45 am, 12:15 pm	9:15 am
	September	10:30 am, 2:00 pm	on demand
	October 1 – 15	10:30 am	on demand
<b>The Bell Family Album</b>	June	3:30 pm	2:30 pm
	July and August	10:00 am, 4:15 pm	1:15 pm
	September 1 – October 15	11:30 am, 4:15 pm	on demand
<b>Alec and I</b>	July and August	2:00 pm	on demand
<b>Tetrahedral Kite Workshop</b>	July and August	1:00 pm	1:00 pm
<b>Come Fly a Kite Workshop</b>	July and August	11:30 am, 3:30 pm	11:30 am, 3:30 pm
	Weekends in September	2:30 pm	2:30 pm
<b>Experiments</b>	July and August	10:30 am, 2:15 pm	10:30 am, 2:15 pm
	Weekends in September	11:00 am	11:00 am

*Please note: A program may be available though not on the schedule - every effort will be made to accommodate curious visitors! Please inquire for further information.*

## Take a Seat and Take a Tour

Explore Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site from the comfort of the AGB Presentation Hall. A guide will use images of the site and Bell family photos unique to this presentation to take you on a “virtual walk” throughout the exhibit areas. Get a revealing sneak preview with anecdotes and photographs.

**30 minutes, \$3.90**



## White Glove Tour

Enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour, getting you up close and personal with Alexander Graham Bell's photos, mementos, gadgets and gizmos! You will be introduced to the Bell collection and the basics of museum conservation, and invited to scrutinize a selection of Bell artifacts.

**30 minutes, \$12.27**

**Limited to 6 people per tour**

## The Bell Family Album

This family of photographers has gifted us with a legacy of images that illustrate stories about the Bells' lives at home and at work. Narrated by a member of our guide staff, come see these photos on the big screen! **30 minutes, \$3.90**

## Alec and I

Alexander Graham and Mabel Bell show us that the world can literally be changed by one's love for another. They stood side by side, meeting the trials and tribulations of their lives together. Mabel's hearing loss brought her to deaf educator Alexander, and the rest is history. Led by a guide, you'll discover their story in this multimedia presentation, featuring artifacts and photographs from their time together. **45 minutes, \$7.30**



## Tetrahedral Kite Workshop

Let your imagination take flight! Bell invented the four-celled tetrahedral kite during his flight experiments at the turn of the last century. See if you have what it takes to build your own then put your

kite to the test when you step outside to fly it. This is not child's play! **45 minutes, \$9.60 per kite**

# Site Map



## Come Fly a Kite!

Create, decorate and fly a kite that's yours to keep in our kite-making program. In the kid-friendly “Discover” area, invent and imagine as you get to know the role kites played in

Bell's experiments with flight. Then come out and marvel at your creation as it rises in the sky dotted with kites.

**30 minutes, \$4.90**

## Experiments

Can water go uphill? Find out in our experiment program and help us perform simple experiments like those Dr. Bell did with his grandchildren. **20 minutes, free**



# Fun for KIDS

- **Come Fly a Kite** you build and decorate at this workshop on Bell's experiments with flight.
- Get your **Xplorers booklet** and see how many activities you can complete. Then take home your Xplorer souvenir!
- Relax in the “**Discover**” area, where families can enjoy a variety of activities and games.
- Participate in the **Experiments program** – can water go uphill? Experiments like those Bell did with his grandchildren.
- Join us on September 16<sup>th</sup> for our **Harvest Home** celebration!
- Seek out our red chairs and enjoy the view. **#ShareTheChair #TimeToConnect**



## Museum Store and Tetra Café



The Alexander Graham Bell Museum Association operates the Museum Store and Tetra Café. The Association is a non-profit organization that helps to support the work of Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site.

• The store products include books, kites, educational toys and souvenirs.

• At the Café, a refreshing beverage and a snack will enhance your enjoyment of the spectacular view of Bras d'Or Lake.

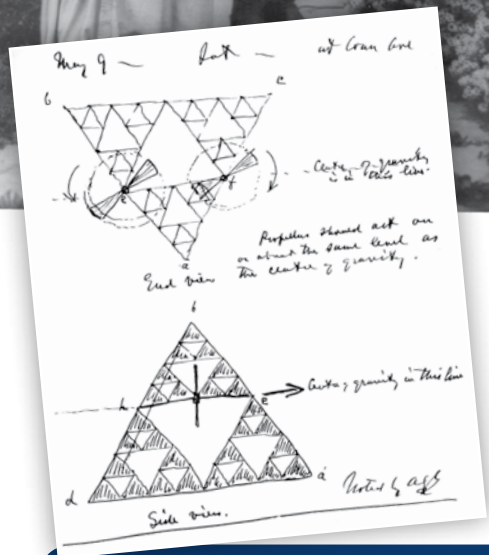
## A bit of history...

Alexander Graham Bell had just turned 29 when he patented the telephone in Boston. This invention marked the beginning of a lifetime of innovative achievements, many of them inspired by his beloved home Beinn Bhreagh in Baddeck, N.S., where he spent the better part of the second half of his life.

Some of Bell's most notable contributions were born at his Beinn Bhreagh laboratories, from the Silver Dart that achieved the first controlled, powered flight in Canada and the HD-4 hydrofoil that broke a marine speed record, to experiments in sheep breeding and kite flying. Bell was also one of the outstanding figures of his generation in the field of deaf education. When demands on his time necessitated that he give up his role as a teacher, his concern for deaf people never lessened. He continued to contribute financially and lend his name to worthy causes. His story, in this spectacular Cape Breton setting, is filled with family, friends, associates, creativity, and innovation. The story played out in a magnificent family home still privately owned by his descendants.

Mabel Hubbard Bell played a vital role in her husband's career, providing him with both financial and moral support to pursue his diverse interests. It was Mabel Bell who inspired, founded and funded the Aerial Experiment Association which achieved heavier-than-air flight. Mabel Bell was primarily responsible for the management of Beinn Bhreagh, which provided work for men and women both in traditional service occupations and in jobs connected with Bell's experiments, such as production of thousands of tetrahedral cells for his massive kites. Mabel was deeply involved in village life, helping to establish the local public library and the Home and School Association, as well as The Young Ladies Club to promote sociability and the acquisition of general knowledge. This Club is one of her many legacies, still operating today under the same principles established in 1891.

Designated a national historic site in 1952 and opened to the public in 1956, Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site reveals the extraordinary heart and mind of a world-famous inventor whose genius helped shape the modern world. Feel his legacy come to life as you explore remarkable artifacts, photos and full-scale replicas that mark his masterful career as an engineer, inventor, scientist and humanitarian. Expect heart-stirring moments, including discovering the touching love story of Alec and Mabel Bell, the woman who inspired Bell's greatest invention, the telephone.



## Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922)

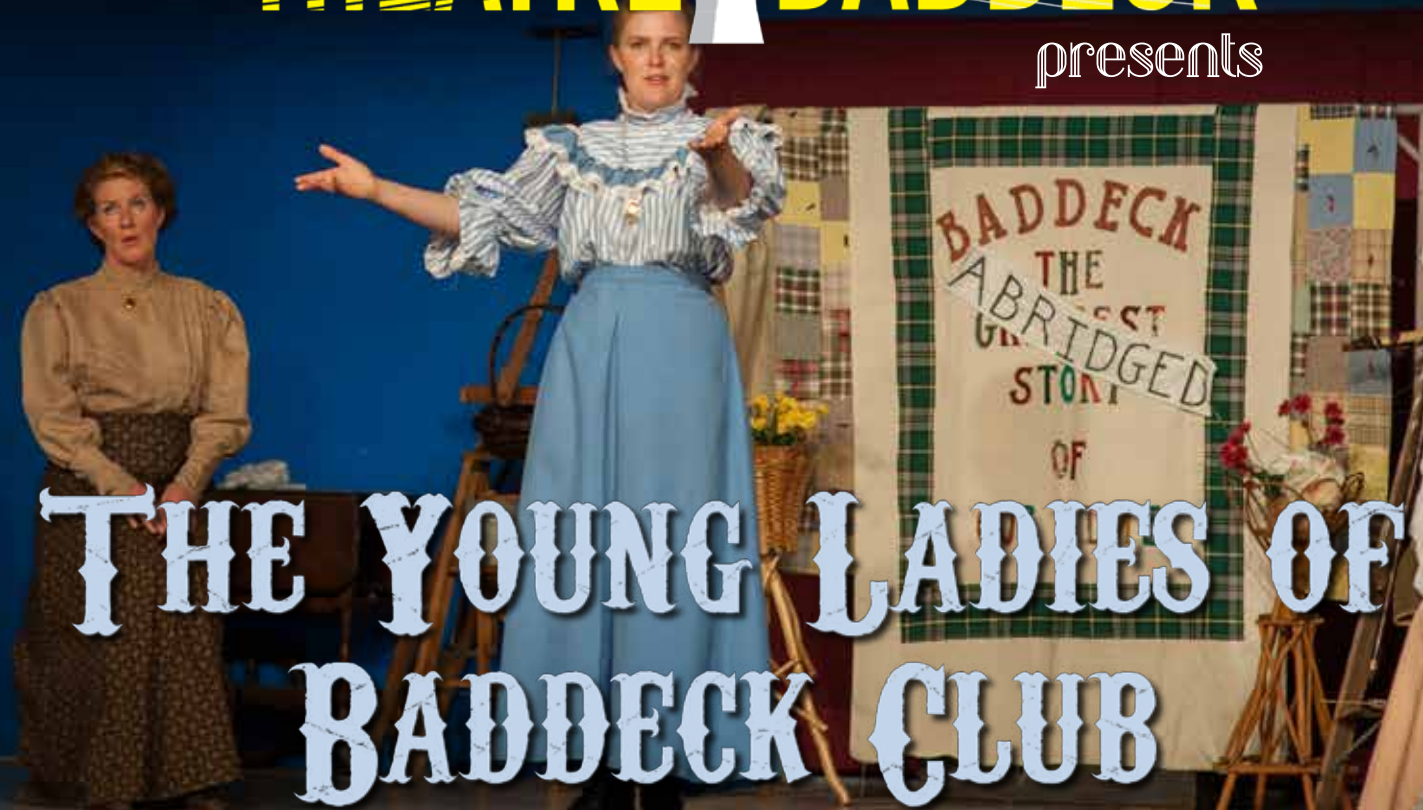
### Some key dates

- 3 March 1847** Born in Edinburgh, Scotland
- 1870** Bell family settles in Ontario
- 1871** Alexander moves to Boston to teach
- 7 March 1876** Telephone patented, Boston (Massachusetts)
- 1877** Marries Mabel Hubbard
- 1885** Visits Baddeck for the first time, travelling from Washington D.C. with his wife and daughters
- 1886** Returns to Baddeck and begins purchasing land for his Beinn Bhreagh estate
- 1897** Succeeds his father-in-law as President of the National Geographic Society
- 1907** Aerial Experiment Association founded (Bell works with Casey Baldwin, Douglas McCurdy, Lt. Thomas Selfridge and Glenn Curtiss)
- 23 Feb 1909** Silver Dart makes the first controlled, powered flight in Canada (Baddeck, Nova Scotia)
- 9 Sept 1919** HD-4 hydrofoil sets world marine record in trial run
- 2 Aug 1922** Dies at age 75, Beinn Bhreagh, Baddeck (Nova Scotia)
- 1952** Designation of Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site
- Today** A time for you to discover the life and legacy of a genius



# THEATRE BADDECK

presents



by Christy MacRae-Ziss and Hannah Ziss



*"This production brought to life every artifact at the Bell Museum. It was the 'coup de coeur' of our summer vacation!" - S. Chan*

**All performances at the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site in partnership with the Alexander Graham Bell Foundation & Association**

September 8-24, 2017

Thursday-Saturday at 7pm / Sunday at 5pm

Adults: \$28

Seniors (65 & up): \$25

Youth (16 & under): \$18

Group (5+): \$22

**Tickets: [www.theatrebaddeck.com](http://www.theatrebaddeck.com)**



Parks Canada / Parcs Canada

# Yours to Explore! Parks Canada in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

 Cape Breton  
Highlands  
National Park



 Marconi  
National Historic Site




 Alexander Graham Bell  
National Historic Site



 Fortress of Louisbourg  
National Historic Site



 Canso Islands and Grassy Island Fort  
National Historic Sites



 St. Peters Canal  
National Historic Site



This is the year to make your **Parks Canada** dream a reality!

Celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation with free entry in 2017 at all national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas across the country operated by Parks Canada.

Show your **Discovery Pass** or pick up a **FREE** one upon arrival to enjoy Parks Canada places and chances to win exciting prizes. Fees apply for camping and special programs.

