

# Advocacy is Multi-Faceted

Michael Rikley-Lancaster





# What does community mean to you?

Waiting for responses ...



# What does advocacy mean to you?

Waiting for responses ...









... Where we are now. How do we advocate for our community?



# ALMONTE OLD TOWN HALL















## Members' Living Expenses - Mentimeter

Living expenses were high in 19th century Almonte: rent alone swallowed one-third of a textile worker's wages. Sometimes whole families were forced to work in order to make ends meet. The poorer members of Almonte lived in "Happy Valley", a collection of shacks outside the north end of town.

### Cost of Living

During the 1870s, the cost of living was drastically different than what we are familiar with today. Comparitively the price of goods and housing was dramatically lower, but so was the average wage earned by Canadians.

#### Average price of housing and goods in Ontario

House rental - \$2.50-\$4.00/month  
Coffee - \$0.31/lbs  
Butter - \$0.18/lbs  
Fresh Beef - \$0.07/lbs  
Potatoes - \$0.35/bushel  
Eggs - \$0.12/dozen

### Frais de subsistance des travailleurs

Malheureusement, pour les résidents d'Almonte, les employés de l'industrie textile étaient les moins bien payés de l'économie Canadienne. Les membres les plus pauvres de la société vivaient dans le "Happy Valley", un ensemble de cabanes situées à l'extérieur de l'extrémité nord de la ville.

### Le coût de la vie et ses dépenses

Dans les années 1870, le coût de la vie était radicalement différent de ce que nous connaissons aujourd'hui. Même si le prix des biens et du logement était beaucoup plus bas, le salaire moyen des Canadiens l'était aussi.

#### Prix moyen du logement et des biens en Ontario

Location d'une maison - 2,50 \$ -  
4,00 \$ par mois  
Café - 0,31 \$/lb  
Beurre - 0,18 \$/lb  
Bœuf frais - 0,07 \$/lb  
Pommes de terre - 0,35 \$/boisseau  
Oeufs - 0,12 \$/douzaine



**What can you and your museum do to advocate for your community?**





# Thank you! Please connect.

Michael Rikley-Lancaster (he/him)  
Executive Director/ Curator  
Mississippi Valley Textile Museum  
National Historic Site  
PO Box 784  
3 Rosamond Street East  
Almonte, ON K0A 1A0  
[www.mvtm.ca](http://www.mvtm.ca)  
[m.rikley-lancaster@mvtm.ca](mailto:m.rikley-lancaster@mvtm.ca)  
613-256-3754

