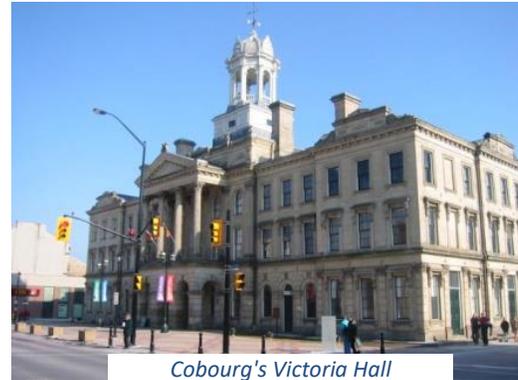


Bi-Centennial (+2) Celebration Of The Jeffrey Family's Arrival in North America

September 16-18, 2022 Cobourg, Ontario

- Meet your Jeffrey cousins.
- Learn/share stories of William Jeffrey and Mary (Lyll) Jeffrey and their children on their venture to the new world from Scotland in 1820. Celebrate their accomplishment, and learn the history surrounding our Jeffrey family's settlement in North America.



Cobourg's Victoria Hall

Our weekend gathering is nearing!

Pandemic concerns have eased as vaccination and treatment methods have become widespread. For family members needing to cross the Canadian border, requirements have been simplified to currently only requiring proof of vaccination. Summer weather is expected to reduce community virus transmission, and border requirements may also ease further. So, we intend to proceed, taking every step possible to protect our health and safety. We encourage you *now* to make your travel plans so we can commit to the convention facilities needed for our Jeffrey celebration.

Our Jeffrey celebration is based in a good quality hotel with an indoor pool, close to modern shopping areas and the main highway. The hotel has a good restaurant and pub, though we are arranging for the hotel to cater a special *banquet* and *luncheon* in the ballroom for the Jeffrey family. You can have other meals in the hotel restaurant, in small family groups with long lost cousins, or explore Cobourg's culinary offerings.

We have booked a secure meeting room beside the main hotel lobby as our "*Jeffrey Lounge*" opening Friday afternoon, Sept 16th. There you can spot yourself on the Jeffrey family tree, view Jeffrey memorabilia displayed by others, and share (Jeffrey) stories individually with new and familiar cousins. Arriving on Friday afternoon, you will have maximum time to mingle with cousins before the organized Saturday morning program. The Jeffrey Lounge will remain open throughout the event until after the Sunday closing luncheon.

The Saturday morning program includes presentations about:

- William and Mary Jeffrey (see www.jeffreycobourg.ca) and what we know of their ancestors, and their children (Hon. Andrew Jeffrey, Isabella Gillespie, Jean Grigg, Catherine Hall and Mary Short).
- The conditions in Scotland that might have induced their emigration, their voyage and the situation they found in the new world.
- Life in Cobourg in the 1820-1880 era, a formative and turbulent time for a new country and its neighbour (told by the Cobourg Historical Society).
- The Jeffreys' involvement in the development of Cobourg and Canada.
- Summary stories of the descendants of each of William and Mary's children.

Saturday afternoon you are at liberty to do one or all of:

- A walking tour of the old town, guided by an architectural historian.
- Visiting the museum (displaying details of the doomed Cobourg to Peterborough railway, from the era of frantic railway competition of the day and involving Andrew Jeffrey).
- A self-driving tour mapped out to help you see the locations of Jeffrey properties, with notes and pictures to help you 'feel' the era, though most original buildings are no longer standing.
- Loaf, shop, swim

We are willing to organize workshop(s) on genealogical methods, and/or DNA if you indicate interest in advance. Throughout the time, we will have quizzes to help you recall key family facts, and trivia. During Sunday's closing farewell luncheon we will jointly figure out how we can stay in touch to share newly discovered facts that tell more of our Jeffrey story.

Cobourg itself is a pretty and historic town with a lovely beach on the shores of Lake Ontario. The weather should be fine, so you can plan all sorts of touring. There are many interesting tourist things to see beyond Cobourg: Niagara Falls, Stratford Shakespearean Festival, Toronto, Ottawa, lakes and water sports. If you like to bump into movie stars, plan to be in Toronto Sept 6-15 for the acclaimed Toronto International Film Festival (<https://tiff.net/about-tiff-22>). Cobourg regional tourist information can be found at <https://www.destinationontario.com/en-ca/regions/kawarthas-and-northumberland>, where you can also find activities across Ontario.

To cover costs for our Jeffrey banquet, luncheon¹ and facility rental we need \$160 (Canadian) per adult². We need to commit serious funds to the hotel in June, so please send us the funds by June 1. Should we not reach our minimum subscription by June 10, or subsequent government pandemic requirements make the event unviable, we will refund all moneys. **Please send funds to our event treasurer, John Jeffrey³, by June 1**, and also book your hotel room⁴.

Your event planning team is really keen to meet everyone and wishes you safe travels. If you have any questions or concerns please contact one of us: Bill Cowan, John Cowan, Jim Jeffrey, John Jeffrey, Tom Loghrin, Marian MacLeod and Ward Skinner.

¹ We will ask registrants for their meal choice from a special menu we have arranged, including a vegetarian option.

² If this event generates surplus cash we will return it to registrants at the event, or possibly make a donation to a local charity, as agreed at the event. Our Treasurer's records are open for inspection by anyone who wishes.

³ **Payment by etransfer** to: john_denison@myhighspeed.ca (note the underscore between john and denison) without a password, and also send John a separate email with the names of attendees (children 12 and under are free, but there is no particular program for them). **By mailing a cheque**, payable to John Jeffrey with "Jeffrey Celebration" on the memo line, to John at 135 King St East, Brockville, Ontario, Canada K6V 1B7.

⁴ We have booked a block of rooms at the convention hotel, the Best Western Plus Cobourg Inn. It is a full service hotel with a pool. (See https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/cobourg/hotel-rooms/best-western-plus-cobourg-inn-convention-centre/propertyCode.66038.html) You can make your own booking in our block of rooms at https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.66038.html?groupId=G69BQ4N7 or by phoning 1-800-780-7234 and booking with the "Jeffrey Celebration" group.