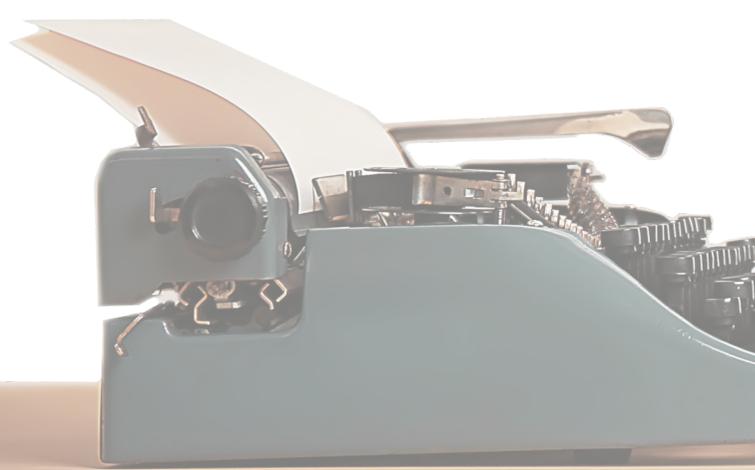


# Introduction

Whether iPhone or Android, over 88% of Canadians have a smartphone. Half of those check their device at least every 30 minutes. We have witnessed the evolution of mobile computing technology firsthand over the past decade, and today's smartphones are several multiples faster than current laptops.

**"Products to Cell"** explores vintage and antique items that have or almost been replaced by smartphones and corresponding apps. Internet access via a phone rather than a desktop or laptop is on the rise, and communication, fun and education are at our fingertips. Explore items that are a simple screen tap away in the present day.



## Phone a friend...



In 1874 at his home in Brantford, Alexander Graham Bell first described the scientific principle that would convey the human voice over wires. By the second World War, Canadians led the world in talking by telephone.

An interesting part of the past was party lines. Common in the first half of the 20th century, especially in rural areas and during WWII when copper wire was in short supply. A party line was shared by more than one subscriber, which meant no privacy. Anyone could pick up and listen in! If someone announced they had an emergency, it was mandatory for all parties to hang up - not everyone complied.

Making connections today is far different than in the past. Phone numbers, once committed to memory, are now saved in a devices' memory instead. Texts are the more predominant way of reaching out, and seeing friends and relatives far away is done through video chat.

## Information overload...



Where we gather our information and news has changed. Libraries, although still around today, have had to shift some of their focus to eBooks and other forms of media. Encyclopedias that once filled a large portion of either the local or home library are now easily accessible through an app like Wikipedia. Facts and information that were once committed to memory are quickly Googled during conversations.

Newspapers were once manually produced and full of local news and stories. Reading about global news was rare, as evidenced by war-time editions of the Flamborough Review. Newspapers are now primarily online and subscription based. Many modern people choose to find out about current events through social media, though this type of consumption of news leads to some bias and lack of fact checking.

## Modern Mass Media...



Entertainment in all its forms has changed drastically within the last few decades, never mind the last century. Movies and film developed from their early days as silent moving pictures. Many a film and series have been filmed in Flamborough, including Act of Vengeance (1986), The Ref (1994), Duct Tape Forever (2002) as well as some productions that are on Netflix (Locke & Key, Reign).

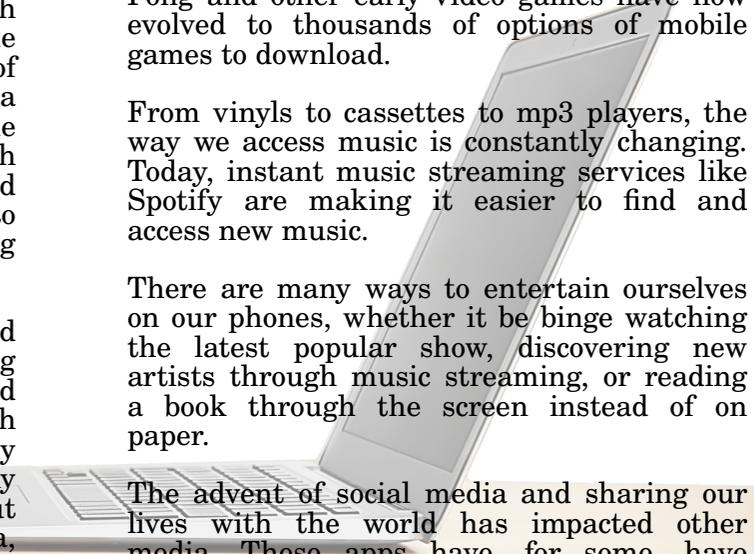
At one time, those that owned radios also needed a license to be able to listen in. Having a radio or TV at home was not a common thing - fans of sports would gather at whomever had a set and listen or watch the game together. Visitors would bring beverages along and the hostess would serve her best appetizers. Today, we can watch live on our phone, or get automatic updates on game results.

Gaming has changed as well, from board games shared between family and friends to electronic examples that fit on a small screen. What started with simple graphics of Pong and other early video games have now evolved to thousands of options of mobile games to download.

From vinyls to cassettes to mp3 players, the way we access music is constantly changing. Today, instant music streaming services like Spotify are making it easier to find and access new music.

There are many ways to entertain ourselves on our phones, whether it be binge watching the latest popular show, discovering new artists through music streaming, or reading a book through the screen instead of on paper.

The advent of social media and sharing our lives with the world has impacted other media. These apps have, for some, have replaced letters, newspapers, greeting cards, diaries, and more.



## Finding your way...



The early history of pioneer settlement in the Flamborough area began with surveyors mapping out concessions and lots in the township. The survey team, using a 66 foot survey chain and a compass, mapped out what would become Flamborough.

Maps and atlases change throughout history, and as time moved on maps changed. What was once a large parchment or cumbersome atlas became a foldable paper kept in car gloveboxes for finding the next stop on a family trip.

With the arrival of GPS, apps can now locate exactly where we are, whether there's traffic on the way, nearby restaurants, or show us what our destination looks like from the street.



*A replica example of a map of "New France", inscribed on leather. Part of the Archives collection.*

## Jot it down...



It is said that the first paper produced in Canada came from a mill at Crooks Hollow just outside Greenville. This is just one of the many industries that built Flamborough and its numerous communities.

Correspondence has come a long way throughout history. From ink and nibs to keyboards that predict the next word.

## Capturing the moment...



The history of photography and moving pictures is long and can be extremely detailed. Nineteenth century portrait photography using daguerrotypes gave way to more modern techniques.

There are two photographers of note from Flamborough's history - William Reid and Stephen Sylvester Main. Both of these amateur photographers captured life in Waterdown and Sheffield at the turn of the 20th century. Many of Will Reid's photographs of Waterdown are in our image catalogue.

Gone are the years of going to the pharmacy and waiting for our photos to develop - we carry cameras in our pocket that can capture live or still images in high definition. Editing software can easily change elements of a photograph, what was once a painstaking process.



*Just one example of Will Reid's photography - Smokey Hollow c. 1905*

## Retail therapy...

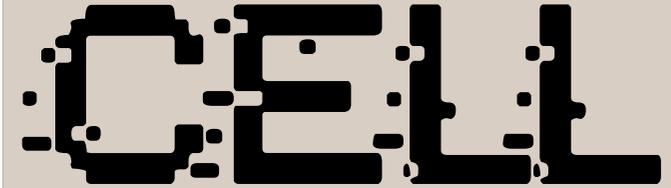


Early days of Flamborough included a general store where folks could purchase or order items they couldn't produce themselves. As postal and train service expanded through Canada, catalogue shopping gained momentum.

Rewards cards, once cluttering our wallets, are now easily stored in one app. Children once gathered on the floor around a catalogue to make a list for Christmas. Apps now have in-built wish lists, making it easier to see what to purchase for that special someone.

# Products

## TO



## Our lives in one device

