

# **The Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee AGENDA**



Wednesday, October 16, 2024

4:30 PM

30 Tillson Avenue

---

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

THAT the agenda as prepared for the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of October 16th, 2024, be approved.

**3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

**4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

THAT the minutes of the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of September 18, 2024, be approved.

**5. Presentations**

**6. General Business & Reports**

**6.1 Museum Update Report - October 2024**

**6.2 Founder's Day Event**

**6.3 Volunteer Appreciation Awards**

**7. Next Meeting**

November 20, 2024 4:30 p.m.

**8. Adjournment**

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

THAT the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of October 16, 2024 be adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

**The Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg  
Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards  
Advisory Committee**

**MINUTES**



Wednesday, September 18, 2024  
4:30 PM  
30 Tillson Avenue

ATTENDANCE: Carrie Lewis  
Amie Varga  
Lindsay Munroe  
Isaac Card  
Joan Weston  
Tabitha Verbuyst  
Rosemary Dean  
Kelly Spencer  
Deb Gilvesy

Regrets: Doug Cooper  
Courtney Booth

Staff: Andrea Greenway  
Laura Pickersgill, Executive Assistant

---

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Resolution # 1**

**Moved By:** Rosemary Dean

**Seconded By:** Joan Weston

THAT the agenda as prepared for the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of September 18th, 2024, be approved.

**Carried**

**3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

None

**4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Resolution # 2**

**Moved By:** Amie Varga

**Seconded By:** Deb Gilvesy

THAT the minutes of the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of June 19, 2024, be approved.

**Carried**

**5. Presentations**

None

**6. General Business & Reports**

**6.1 Andrea Greenway, Acting Director of Recreation, Culture and Parks  
RE: Museum Updates**

A. Greenway provided a summary of the successful events held in the summer at the museum.

A. Greenway provided an overview of upcoming events and exhibits for the fall at the museum.

A. Greenway provided an overview of museum staffing announcements.

**6.2 Heritage Building Exterior Renovation Request**

E. Xuereb provided a summary of the request from the building owner for required renovations.

There was no opposition from the Committee on this proposal.

**6.3 Tabitha Verbuyst, Executive Director/Curator RE: Station Arts Centre Updates**

T. Verbuyst provided an overview of summer events held at the Station Arts Centre.

T. Verbuyst provided a summary of upcoming events scheduled for the fall at the Station Arts Centre.

T. Verbuyst notified the Committee that the Station Arts Centre is looking for artists to submit proposals to be part of a large, permanent, hanging, translucent art installation in the centre of the mall in the theme of 'What Tillsonburg Means to Them'.

#### **6.4 Founder's Day**

The Committee discussed updates and details regarding the Founder's Day event scheduled for October 18, 2025.

A. Greenway placed a hold on the Lion's Auditorium for this date. A. Greenway will discuss with staff about holding bookable spaces around the Community Centre on that date to limit the amount of traffic that will be in the area on that particular day.

Updates included:

- The Scouts will be preparing breakfast
- C. Lewis is in the process of obtaining vintage props and games for the event
- T. Verbuyst will look into getting weavers from Backus Mill
- C. Lewis will inquire about a re-enactment option
- The Great Canadian Lumberjacks are available that day. There was discussion regarding getting sponsorship for this. C. Lewis to confirm how payment for this would work.
- Wagon rides have been secured

R. Dean and L. Munroe will send sponsorship letter templates to C. Lewis.

L. Pickersgill will author a report to Council regarding the event.

There was a discussion regarding the dog park being open during the event.

#### **6.5 Andrea Greenway RE: Commemorative Naming**

There was a discussion regarding the names of parks in the Town. A. Greenway will bring the commemorative naming policy to this Committee after the Recreation and Sports Committee has finished reviewing.

A. Greenway to look into having consistent signage at parks across Town.

**6.6 Carrie Lewis/Joan Weston RE: Theatre Tillsonburg Update**

A Theatre Tillsonburg member will be invited to a future meeting for information gathering purposes.

The new long-term care home, PeopleCare, will be incorporating historical features from the Town in the new building.

**7. Next Meeting**

October 16, 2024 4:30 p.m.

**8. Adjournment**

**Resolution # 3**

**Moved By:** Rosemary Dean

**Seconded By:** Tabitha Verbuyst

THAT the Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting of September 18, 2024 be adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

**Carried**

## MUSEUM REPORT

Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee

Wednesday October 16, 2024

### Staffing News

- The Culture & Heritage Manager/Curator position has been posted on the town web-site and on the Jobs Board page of the Ontario Museum Association's website
- The posting closes October 23 end of day
- Multiple applications have already been received

### Current & Up-Coming Exhibits & Events

- Current exhibit in the Pratt Gallery is the OCCI Small Wonders Big Talent Art Show & Sale
  - Annual show in partnership with Oxford Creative Connections Inc.
  - Almost 200 pieces on display including; paintings, fibre work, jewelry, pottery and decorative gourds
  - To date 23 pieces have been sold
  - Show runs until October 27<sup>th</sup>
- Next Exhibit in the Gallery "Faux Christmas Tree"
  - Museum's annual Christmas Exhibit will highlight the history of the artificial or "Faux" Christmas tree
  - Will display Feather trees from late 1800's to early 1900's, first bottle brush trees, early plastic trees and tinsel trees from the 1960's and more
  - Exhibit opens on the Friday evening of the museum's Christmas Open House Weekend, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> through Sunday Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>
- October's Up-coming Programs
  - October 16<sup>th</sup> – Flowers & Leaves Fabric Painting Workshop with Stella Jurgen
  - October 20<sup>th</sup> – Book Launch of Dr. Rebecca Beausaert's first book "Pursing Play: Women's Leisure in Small-Town Ontario, 1870-1914." Tillsonburg was one of the "Small Towns" featured in the book and the museum's collection of documents and photographs was used for research. Picture on the cover of the book shows members of the Tillsonburg Ladies Grasshoppers Tennis Club.
  - October 24<sup>th</sup> – Cemetery Tour of the Mausoleums in the Tillsonburg Cemetery
  - October 26<sup>th</sup> – Cemetery Tour of the Mausoleums in the Tillsonburg Cemetery
  - October 31<sup>st</sup> – Trick or Treat throughout the first floor of Annandale House – volunteers in costume will be handing out treats in the 5 rooms on the first floor from 4 pm to 7 pm or while supplies last

### Collection News

- Earlier this month museum accepted a donation of a Log Cabin Quilt, Pineapple variation made in Tillsonburg in the late 1870's or early 1880's by Sarah Weatherwax
- Weatherwax family have been long time residents of Tillsonburg
- Although the museum has other log cabin quilts in the collection, this is the first "Pineapple Variation" to be donated

### Year to Date Numbers

- Museum continues to increase attendance numbers over last year
  - YTD for 2023 : 6230 (Jan 1 to Sept. 30)
  - YTD for 2024: 6,667 (Jan 1 to Sept. 30)
  - Although not a huge increase, the numbers are going in the right direction
  - Projected that museum, barring extreme bad weather in up-coming months, will end the year with an increase over the 2023 year-end number which was 8,263