

Fort Frances Museum Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting: Mon Sept 21, 2015, 4:45 p.m.

Present: Debbie Ballard ✓ Robert Schulz ✓ Mary Hickling ✓ Jim Curr Caren Fagerdahl ✓
Council representative: Paul Ryan ✓ Committee Secretary: Sherry George ✓ Guests: Bethany Waite

Minutes from last meeting, July 20: adopted as sent.

Governance:

Finance: Budget process will begin soon. Spending to consider: computer upgrade for me, computer program upgrade, changes to pay for students (univ paid more), an Ontario museums conference one year, additional staffing.

Collections:

- Collections Management Coordinator, Bethany now settled in, will look at additional moveable storage.
- Piano belonging to Mary Scott donated, over 100 years old; I will investigate her significance to community.

Exhibitions:

- **Main floor** – *Sept to Dec:* Artistry of Hooked Rugs. D. Ballard curating. Opening Tues, Sept 29, 5:30-7:30.
- **Additional exhibit ideas** – would like to form a committee... using I-pads for interactive content, and brainstorm ideas for 2017 – Canada 150. Possibility – boats: canoes, steamships, Russell Bros, etc Eric Fagerdahl will curate.

Interpretation & Education:

- Partnering with new Native craft store on a traditional fashion show in February.
- Partnering with Friends to run arts programming this fall & winter. Debbie will teach rughooking Oct 24 & 31.

Research: researching three forefathers/mothers for new town columbariums. Names put forward are Dr. DC McKenzie, Herbert Williams, Nancy Loutit Calder.

Conservation:

- Rainy Lake hotel murals: will be removed by contractor and shipped to Winnipeg. Jane Daley and Radovan Radulovic, conservators out of Winnipeg, will clean and preserve. Future? Part of market square?

Physical Plant:

- A few minor issues: upstairs bathroom toilet not filling properly, main floor camera not working. Personnel called.

Community:

- Friends researching 2016 calendar. Reordered T-shirts. Planning for gala underway: Thurs Nov 5 – ‘Cutting a Rug’

Human Resources/Professional Development:

- Bethany Waite hired as our Collections Management Coordinator through N. Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.
- Looking for volunteer help over winter to man reception, do research, etc.
- Sherry attending Association of Manitoba Museums annual conference in Winnipeg Oct 1-3. (Current budget does not allow attendance at Ontario’s conference.)
- Regional Museums meeting scheduled for Oct 16 at Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung. Manitoba Museum Association is investigating their participation.
- Sherry & Bethany attending Cultural Heritage workshop in Kenora Sept 22 and Tourism luncheon here Sept 24.

Numbers: July 2015 visitors: 697; (596 in 2014); Aug 2015 visitors: 617 (665 in 2014).

Ontario Arts Council:

Follow-up: *Recommendations to be made to Executive Committee of Community Services...*

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Possibly Tues Oct 20 (due to election Mon). Will be confirmed.