

Fort Frances Museum Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting: Tues Aug 23, 4:15 p.m.

Present: Debbie Ballard✓ Robert Schulz✓ Mary Hickling✓ Caren Fagerdahl
Council representative: Paul Ryan✓ Committee Secretary: Sherry George✓ Guest:

Minutes from last meeting, July 26: accepted as sent.

Governance:

- Any further suggestions for recruiting another advisory committee member?
- Regional Museums fall meeting scheduled for Sept 28 in Dryden.

Finance: Town council has agreed to apply to Canada 150 grant funding. Sherry will apply for an infrastructure grant (\$150,000) through Trillium that will repair the roof, provide a ramp out front, and create a handicap accessible washroom from the two in the foyer. Grant is stackable, so a federal grant can also be applied to for additional funding. J.Kabel will apply for a celebration grant (\$25,000) that will cover events in the 2017 year. For winter event, Couchiching & Metis will partner.

Collections:

- On the conclusion of her internship, B.Waite has provided a report that summarizes our collection, its condition and any recommendations for culling, storage, etc.
- Students continuing with newspaper digitization. N.McManaman will continue through the winter.

Exhibitions:

- On conclusion of her internship, Julia Piskiewicz, has provided a report on the interactive programming initiative. Having worked closely with J.Hughes, report recommends procedures/technical requirements going forward with budget, complete with recorded content for initial start-up.
- Main floor — 75th Anniversary of Battle of Hong Kong – Sept/Oct – Marjorie Stintzi completed research.
- Fibre Arts Festival – Sept to Dec upstairs. Mary will set up display Aug 30th. Judging Sept 2nd.
- Threadworks: *Flashback* – Nov/Dec
- Canada 150 – planning underway. Advertised next meeting: Sept 1 at 6 p.m.

Interpretation & Education:

- 'Sip & Paint' on *silk*, workshop led by Cher Pruys. Second class will run Mon Sept 19, 5-9, \$35/person.
- Métis group will be running beading workshops on Wednesday afternoons: & a two-day capote-making workshop Sept 17 & 18. Will run the fibre arts class same afternoon through the winter.

- Notice sent to artist group re Saturday & Wed evening arts programming for this coming winter.
- Fabric donation for charity group. Suggestions? Will call Gail Govier and Janis Wright.

Research: William Hampden Tener for Canada 150 project. The Ontario Archives have agreed to digitize those slides (55) that are most sensitive to damage. Our contact (A.Cain) in Toronto will digitize the rest (334) using OA equipment. All digital images will be made available to both sides for use.

Conservation:

Physical Plant:

- Incident Aug 12: someone became locked in women's washroom. Had to break them out, which caused some damage to the door jamb. Filed report. E.Halvorsen has removed handle temporarily, so out of order.
- Looking at fall for work on the furnace room. Need alternate venting so chimney does not freeze up again.
- Looking at bringing in E.Halvorsen to bring us up to date with mtce issues identified in May 2015 inspection.

Community:

- Tea & Scones wraps up this Thursday. Although we experienced some slow days, overall it was a success.
- Confirmed with T.Drysdale that Adv Com was NOT in favour of changing blue signage, as reported.

Human Resources/Professional Development:

- Job posting for NOHFC intern position, Events & Programming Coordinator, deadline Aug 31. 8 applications.
- We may be losing volunteer, M.Hayes, as she's developed a personal life! Need to proceed with recruiting more volunteers; Max logged over 1,000 hours in 2015.
- Sherry attended risk management training.
- Summer students finish up prior to Labour Day weekend.

Numbers: July visitors: 685, (617 in 2015).

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Tues Sept 20 at 4:30 p.m? Will confirm day with Caren and send reminder.