

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 28, 2018

The meeting of Museum Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Museum on August 28, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:50 a.m.

PRESENT: Debbie Ballard - Chair, Robert Schulz, Mary Hickling, Nell Laur,

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry George, Museum Curator

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

3. Approval of Previous Committee Minutes

3.1 Meeting Date: Tues, July 24th; minutes approved as sent.

4. Governance:

5. Finance:

5.1 Requested funds from town to pay outstanding Body Works invoice to refurbish the tugboat. Final invoice is \$19,278. (\$20,600 plus taxes minus advance payment of \$4000). Request denied. Museum will pay from their donation budget.

6. Collections:

6.1 Accessioning continues. Some re-organizing of storage areas required.

6.2 Two past mill employees have been in to start organizing mill donation prior to accessioning.

7. Exhibitions:

7.1 We Were Taught Differently: the Residential School Experience closes Sept 1. Overall, very well received by community. Especially significant was the attendance by schools and the positive feedback from parents and teachers on the programming prepared by students.

7.2 Museum's 40th anniversary during Sept/Oct. Opening reception Wed Sept 19, 4-7 p.m. Declared a municipally significant event by council. Opening remarks begin at 4:30.

8. Interpretation & Education:

8.1 Summer programming for children wound up last week. New children's programming at RL square very successful; numbers increased weekly.

8.2 Night at the Museum was full within a week of posting the event.

8.3 Line-up for fall and winter workshops FULL prior to advertising! Clearly a need in our community for something for adults to do.

8.4 Laura Gosse working with a number of community partners to offer indigenous art. These workshops will be rotated through our neighbouring FN communities. Meetings

have generated a lot of interest.

9. Research:

9.1 Work taking place around the 40th anniversary.

10. Conservation:

11. Physical Plant:

11.1 Ramp complete. Great facelift for museum's 40th, building's 120th.

12. Community:

12.1 Exhibit opening on Wed Sept 19 will also celebrate completion of capital projects: roof, ramp & accessible washrooms. Representatives from Trillium and FedNor, and both our MP and MPP have been invited. Both the present council and candidates who are running will be invited.

12.2 Summer season closes Sat Sept 1. Last day for heritage sites. Off-season hours return Tues Sept 4. Admission by donation.

12.3 Museum is photographing our community landmarks. It is apparent that we are missing many of the new upgrades made to the community infrastructure and business community. All schools, most hotels and restaurants, and many other community landmarks have seen major renewal or been replaced. We need to record those changes.

12.4 Tea & scones saw record numbers this year. Decision will have to be made for next year as to running or not. As scones are donated, we do see some revenue (approx \$1200). As event was originally planned as marketing ploy, we've been successful. However can we sustain going forward?

13. Human Resources / Professional Development:

13.1 Performance evaluations for students complete. Final reports for grants due.

14. Numbers:

14.1 July numbers: 725 (775 in 2017)

15. Recommendations to be made to the Executive Committee of Community Services...

16. ADJOURN / NEXT MEETING DATE - Adjourned 1:30. Next meeting Tues Sept 25 at noon.

D. Ballard, Chair

S. George, Museum Curator