

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

MUSEUM ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE

January 23, 2019

The meeting of Museum Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Museum on January 23, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. for approx one hour.

PRESENT: Debbie Ballard called away, Robert Schulz, Mary Hickling chaired, Caren Fagerdahl, Nell Laur, John McTaggart - Councillor

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry George, Museum Curator; Jason Kabel, Community Services Manager

**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 Dec 11, 2018; Approved as sent.  
Discussed future meeting dates. Agreed that meetings will be held 4th Wed of each month at 12 noon.

**4. Governance:**

- 4.1 The committee welcomes councillor, John McTaggart,

**5. Finance:**

- 5.1 Proposed changes to curator's pay band level and vacation allotment: yet to be decided.
- 5.2 Request for museum assistant to start March 1st: no decision yet.
- 5.3 Still in discussion around loan agreement for Franklin expedition. Once signed, we'll apply for funding (MAP). Will also apply for changes around admission fees as previously discussed; to affect large exhibits only.
- 5.4 Capital dollars requested for berth for Owandem, and additional security for museum main floor and Hallett: yet to be approved.
- 5.5 Applications submitted for student grants: Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs, one position each. Will also apply under Summer Experience once open. Also discussed changed to CSJ applications that require someone with signing authority for the Town to authorize. Jason will take matter forward.

**6. Collections:**

- 6.1 Letter re: loan of sleigh was received by Hamiltons. Spoke to Linda. She will sign and return requested form.
- 6.2 Nell brought up the Fontana photo albums. Sherry will review with Nell.

**7. Exhibitions:**

- 7.1 2019 line-up: Veterans of Treaty 3 (local) closes Jan 31; Feb/March - Fibre Content (on loan) on main floor, Fibre Arts Festival (local) on second floor; Apr-June - Climate Change (local) featuring info and art; July-Sept - Echoes in the Ice, the Franklin

Expedition (on loan); Oct-Dec - probably prohibition (local). For climate change, will be looking for volunteers to sit on a committee. Both M.Hickling and C.Fagerdahl will participate.

**8. Interpretation & Education:**

- 8.1 Registration for workshops underway. One class may have to be cancelled due to lack of participants, but others doing well. Wood carving and spring arrangements full.
- 8.2 Children and their parents loving the drama classes Tuesday evenings. Excellent feedback.
- 8.3 Indigenous Workshop Series: received funding from New Gold (\$5000); capote-making workshop full; library will take over the running of the series should we not receive an assistant.

**9. Research:**

- 9.1 Climate change with emphasis on what other cities are doing.

**10. Conservation:**

**11. Physical Plant:**

- 11.1 Small changes: weather stripping for front door; change table for public washroom; moisture on wall below humidifiers in shipping room; investigating changes required to security for summer exhibit in relationship to evening use of public washroom.

**12. Community:**

- 12.1 Friends discussing SnOasis plans. Planning for late February or early March. Plan to use Rainy Lake Square. Nice to see snow removal has continued through the winter - a big help for this event.
- 12.2 Right Relations Circle hoping to partner with a number of community groups including FN in order to provide indigenous awareness training to community leaders through Linklater group. In planning stages. Ted Scholten's name was put forward as possible contact as to what has been done at Riverside around this topic.

**13. Human Resources / Professional Development:**

- 13.1 Intern Laura Gosse last day March 1.
- 13.2 Hired Lauren Hyatt as casual staff to update the tablets and newspaper digitization project. Using tech support budget.
- 13.3 N.McManaman and A.Armstrong returning students for summer of 2019.

**14. Numbers:**

- 14.1 December: 132 visitors; (Dec 2017: 182). Less traffic to purchase gift items this year, probably due to fewer people buying the Tener book.

**15. Strategic Plan:**

- 15.1 Review of strat plan to decide focus for 2019. Everyone will review the plan and submit topics of interest for next meeting.

**16. Recommendations to be made to the Executive Committee of Community Services...**

**17. ADJOURN / NEXT MEETING DATE**

Meeting adjourned 12:50 p.m. Next meeting: Wed Feb 27 at noon.

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D. Ballard, Chair

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S. George, Museum Curator