



Preserving, promoting, and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

**Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Meeting Agenda
Thursday February 15th, Noon in Kenilworth**

COMMITTEE: Cliff Boicey, Doris Cassan, Faye Craig,
Sue Doherty, Linda Hruska, Bonny McDougall,
Tim McIntosh, Gerald Townsend, June Turner,
Councillor Penny Renken.

OTHERS: Mathilda O'Donnell Tasha Grafos Mandy Jones
Robyn Mulder Crystal Seifried Dale Small
Mike Wilson

<p>Review and approval of agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda provided 	<p>Chair Bonny</p>
<p>Review and approval of minutes from previous meeting (pages 2 – 5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from November 29th meeting attached. Minutes were accepted by council on December 11th. 	<p>Chair Bonny</p>
<p>Introduction of Guests & New Team Members</p>	<p>Dale</p>
<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington North Strategic Plan 	<p>Mandy</p>
<p>Update on workplan items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplan Item 1 Wellington North Farmers Market <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Council on February 12th Workplan Item 2 Cultural Grants & Donations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report. Workplan Item 3 Cultural Moments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 15th June (Palmer) Diefenbacher (page 6) February 12th Black History Month (page 7) Workplan Item 4 Simply Explore Culture website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual domain maintenance fee of \$900 paid for 2024. 	<p>Dale & Robyn</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan Item 5 Wellington North Culture Days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 25th Anniversary of Amalgamation Art Contest & Celebration ○ Artisan Showcase • Workplan Item 6 Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundtable partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partnership on a Tourism Growth Program Grant Application to support Culture Days/Culture Bus, Driftscape application, and ON Culture Guide, etc. ○ Next Joint Meeting Friday May 31st (10:00am – 2:00pm) in Hanover to include DEI Training, Culture Days Planning, etc. • Other items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heritage designations and heritage discussion 	Councillor Renken
<p>Roundtable items & Upcoming events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items of interest to be raised by committee members. (page 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ January Culture Page ad attached. ○ February 17th MF BIA Family Funfest Downtown Mount Forest. ○ March 6th International Women’s Day Event at the Neustadt Arena. Guest Speaker Alicia Gibbons entrepreneur, trainer and speaker brings a wealth of knowledge and information on mental health and wellness training. ○ March 29th Grants and Donations Applications due. ○ April 14th – 20th is National Volunteer Week and April 18th is our next Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer Welcome in Arthur from 4:30pm – 7:00pm. 	All
<p>Date of Next Meetings and adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March 21st, 2024 @ noon in Kenilworth ○ No April meeting however everyone is encouraged to register and attend the April 18th Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer Welcome ○ May meeting will be a joint meeting on May 31st in Hanover. 	Chair Bonny

**WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29TH, 2023 ARTHUR COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Members Present: Chair Bonny McDougall, Doris Cassan, Faye Craig,
Linda Hruska, Tim McIntosh, Gerald Townsend
Councillor Penny Renken.

Members Absent: Cliff Boicey, Sue Doherty, June Turner,

Staff & Guests: Mathilda O’Donnell Crystal Seifried Dale Small

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Lunch started at 11:30, prior to the start of the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm by Chair Bonny. Moved by Faye and seconded by Doris that the agenda for the November 29th meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EDO Dale apologized for the lack of minutes from the previous meeting. The committee then went around the table and introduced themselves to our Guest who had been invited by Tim McIntosh. Tim introduced Mathilda O'Donnell and her daughter Eleanor. Mathilda is an Arthur resident having moved from Germany five years ago. The Cultural Roundtable welcomed Mathilda and Eleanor

2024 Cultural Roundtable Workplan & Budget Items
 roundtable, 2024 workplan as follows:

EDO Dale reviewed the cultural

WORKPLAN ITEM	EXPENSE
<p>1) W.N. Farmers Market: 2024 will be our 11th season. Consistent with previous years, expense is mostly offset by revenues generated from vendor fees, grants, and the sale of Market Boxes. EDO Dale and a Summer Student has been the Market Manager for the past two years and this will continue in 2024. Entertainment once a month will expand to twice a month in 2024. Our intent should be to work towards establishing a market in Arthur. Please thank and support our 2023 vendors every chance you are able to do so.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Big John’s Country Market 9324 Highway 6, Kenilworth. 2. Brenda’s Embroidery, 084104 Southgate Road 4, Mount Forest. gb5dmartin@gmail.com 3. Chicken Thika Farm 7687 Sideroad 2 East, Kenilworth. chickenthikafarm@gmail.com 4. Couture Candles, 373 Main Street South, Mount Forest. chloenapadek@gmail.com 5. Farewell HomeBaking, Anna Brubacher 9191 Conc. 11, Mount Forest. 6. Farm Bees Dave Watson, R.R. # 1 Durham, Ontario. dwfarmbees@gmail.com 7. Full Circle Farm, Edwin & Lena Martin 6383 10th Line, Harriston. 8. Good Vibrations 7615 Jones Baseline, Arthur. info@helenmurray.ca 9. Lots of Dots, Helen Craigie 221 Durham Str. E., Mount Forest craigiehelen55@gmail.com 10. Louise Marshall Hospital Auxiliary, C/O Penny Renken hprenken@wightman.ca 11. Mount Forest Aquatics Committee, C/O Sherry Burke sburke@wellington-north.ca 12. Reroot Farm 5642 11th Line, Harriston, Ontario info@reroot.ca 13. Tim Koech Freeze Dried Foods 102635 Roud 49, Mount Forest tkoech@gmail.com <p><i>A good discussion took place and lots of support was given to the suggestion of establishing a Farmers Market in Arthur. To be discussed further at the next meeting.</i></p>	<p>\$ 6,000</p>
<p>2) Cultural Funding & Grants Program: Two applications were approved in 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$ 500 to the Arthur Barn Quilt Trail Project • \$1,000 to the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival <p>The Cultural Roundtable also advocated for \$10,000 in funds for The Lynes Blacksmith Shop which was granted out of the BR+E Implementation Fund. <i>Cultural Roundtable agreement that this program, which has been in place for many years should continue.</i></p>	<p>\$ 2,000</p>
<p>3) Cultural Moments: Since 2012, 140+ Cultural Moments have been shared at W.N. Council Meetings. During 2023, 20 Cultural Moments were shared, the most of any year. A website link was provided to committee members who are encouraged to continue to submit Cultural Moments to EDO Dale. <i>Cultural Roundtable agreement that this program should continue, and some discussion took place around how to share these more widely.</i></p>	<p>\$ 750</p> <p>\$ 750</p>

<p>4) Simply explore culture and simply explore website & domain renewals: Annual domain renewal and website hosting fees. My recommendation however is that we eliminate this site. No one on the committee has indicated it is worth saving/developing so recommend we eliminate and start over. <i>Total agreement, this website either needs to be updated or taken down. Will be a 2024 decision.</i></p>	
<p>5) Wellington North Culture Days: We continue to grow this program and in 2024 Culture Days will launch with the Art Contest and 25th anniversary of amalgamation celebration. The Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer welcome is scheduled for Sept 12th and along with the Metz Pumpkifest, Lynes Blacksmith Shop, and our second annual Artisan Showcase we hopefully can encourage other groups to get involved in Culture Days. Funding for the Art Contest is included in the WN council budget. <i>Lots of discussion and support. At our next meeting we will need to decide on the date and location for the Artisan’s Showcase in 2024.</i></p>	\$ 3,000
<p>6) Hanover, Minto & Wellington North Cultural Roundtable goals and actions: A number of items came out of our September joint meeting and growing this partnership will be a 2024 goal for the Cultural Roundtable. Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate on Culture Days Profiles/Guide. • Investigation & presentation on Driftscape app, • Collaborate on grant applications. • Develop a “cultural bus tour”. • DEI training (Hanover to host) • Partner on a cultural summit. <p><i>Roundtable agreed expanding this partnership in 2024 and beyond should be a priority for the WN Cultural Roundtable.</i></p>	\$ 1,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$13,500.00
WORKPLAN ITEM	REVENUE
<p>1) W.N. Farmers Market: Vendor fees combined with some revenue that is made from the sale of the Market Boxes will enable us to operate a balanced budget for the Farmers Market. Vendor fees are not expected to increase in 2024 with the annual fee staying at \$200.00 for the full season or \$20.00 per day for daily vendors.</p>	\$ 6,000.00
<p>2) Other Revenue: Subject to council approval \$7,500 is included in the Economic Development operating budget to support Cultural Roundtable initiatives. This funding is used to cover the domain renewal, cultural grants program as well as marketing for the farmers market, culture days and other cultural roundtable programs.</p>	\$ 7,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 13,500.00

Cultural Moments. The goal is to have a Cultural Moment at every council meeting and Chair Bonny encouraged the committee to put a schedule & list of topics together for future cultural moments. Since our last meeting cultural moments have been prepared as follows:

- November 6th Lieutenant Samuel Lewis Honey V.C.
- November 20th Curling
- December 11th Christmas in Pioneer Canada
- January 15th June (Palmer) Diefenbacher

Wellington North Culture Days : Good discussion on culture day events including the Artisan Showcase sponsored by the Cultural Roundtable. Agreement that this should continue, and improvements can be made. Suggestions are to provide food, have a wider range of vendors, etc. Doris also updated on the Art Contest being launched to support the 25th Anniversary of Amalgamation. This event will take place during Culture Days in 2024 and Doris is working with Tasha on an Art Contest to support the celebrations.

ROUNDTABLE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Linda asked about the Diwali event in Mount Forest and was disappointed to hear it had been cancelled. Roundtable agreed these were great events for us to try and support.
- Doris thanked the roundtable, on behalf of Tasha and herself, for the support given to the 25th Anniversary Art Contest.
- Crystal highlighted a couple of upcoming items and thanked the roundtable for continuing to invite her. She would like to continue to provide marketing support to the Cultural Roundtable where able.
- Penny updated on activities taking place at Knox Conn as well as the winter solstice taking place at Reroot Organic Farms, one of our Farmers Market vendors.
- Bonny updated on a variety of activities taking place at Metz leading up to Christmas.
- Gerald updated on the Christmas Cantata taking place in Mount Forest on the 17th and Arthur on the 18th.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on Thursday January 18th, 2024, at noon in Kenilworth. Moved by Faye that the Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:15 PM

CARRIED

CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JAN 15TH CELEBRATES OLIVE (PALMER) DIEFENBAKER

Thinking back, has there ever been a teacher in your life who has left a profound influence on you as an adult?

Such was the case of a teacher, Olive Palmer. Olive was born in Roland, Manitoba in 1902. Her father, Charles Freeman was a Baptist Minister and Olive first met a young John Diefenbaker in Saskatoon at the church where her father was preaching. He was studying Law at the University of Saskatchewan. Shortly after, Olive's family moved to Ontario for the ministry.



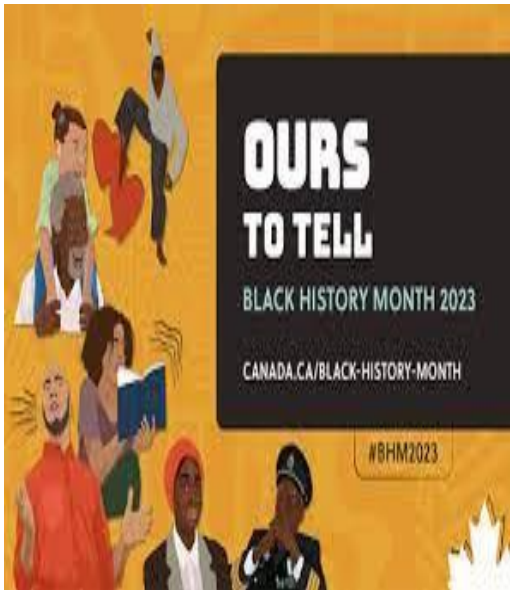
She attended McMaster University and Teacher's College majoring in French and in 1933, began teaching in Guelph where she met Harry Palmer, a lawyer, her first husband. He died suddenly in 1936 leaving Olive and a daughter Caroline. Olive went back to teaching and was given a job at Arthur District High School where she taught until 1940 when she moved to Owen Sound to begin a new career as the director of child guidance for The Ontario Department of Education.

She reunited with John Diefenbaker in 1951 and they were married in 1953 in Toronto. Olive revisited Arthur with her husband John Diefenbaker in 1962 and throughout his time as Prime Minister of Canada 1957-1963, was an asset to his campaign team for her ability to remember names, her charm and being able to speak fluent French. Olive Diefenbaker died in 1976 in Ottawa as a former wife of our 13th Prime Minister but in Arthur for many former students, she was Mrs. Palmer.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

CULTURAL MOMENT FOR FEB 12TH CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in Canada and their communities. The 2023 theme for Black History Month is: “Ours to Tell”. This theme represents both an opportunity to engage in open dialogue and a commitment to learning more about the stories Black communities in Canada have to tell, about their histories, successes, sacrifices, and triumphs.



In the early 19th century, the unsettled area from Lake Huron to Waterloo County and north was known as the Queen's Bush. Over 1500 Black refugee slaves escaped the southern states and began settling in this area around the 1820's. Many settled around Glen Allen, Wellesley and Hawksville. They cleared land, built homes, churches, and schools and American missionaries came to teach and preach.

Their journey to Ontario was nothing more than a miracle. In the southern states they were hunted and as they made their way north with help from the Underground Railway and Abolitionists there were still many in the northern states who would seem to be helpful but capitalize by turning in a runaway slave for the \$50.00 cash reward.

In the 1840's, the Queen's Bush land was ordered to be surveyed and with the immigration of many families from Europe and the UK in the 1850's, the Black families were forced to leave the land they had cleared and houses they had built in the years leading up to this. In the writings of Benjamin Drew who interviewed the Black refugees that settled near Glen Allen in Peel Township, William Jackson, a former slave quoted, "*There were as many as 50 families who began to clear land for farms. They settled where they found fit with no thought of price or terms of the land.*" As they cleared the property and planted crops to sell, their lack of education, reading and keeping records left them without any means to deal with the land agents when they came to collect money for the land after the survey was done.

A great many of these refugees sold what meager belongings they had and with the Garafraxa Road (Highway 6) being surveyed and built from Fergus North around this same time, 1843, there is speculation that many of these displaced Black families travelled through our township on their way to Owen Sound. They started again, often working for others to gain money, to be financially independent, to be free and to live in peace.

From the Narratives of Refugee Slaves by Benjamin Drew 1856 Wellington County Museum and Archives

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



Northern Wellington Culture, Arts and Heritage



Our Northern Wellington partnership is working together to preserve, promote and develop our unique cultural resources to support a vibrant inclusive community and a prosperous economy.



Wellington North
Cultural
Roundtable



2024 ANNUAL

JOIN US FOR THE
**WINTER FAMILY
FUN FEST**

SAT. FEB. 17TH
12PM - 5PM

- STREET HOCKEY •
- VENDOR MARKET •
- FOOD & MORE •

**KING STREET W.
MOUNT FOREST**

Big Film Fest

FALLEN LEAVES
February 19 at 7:15 pm

Admission \$10

A quiet, melancholic, humorous love story featuring two people who spend their days at drab workplaces but meet in a karaoke bar. The story is told in a deadpan manner but is subtly funny in its dialogue and sight gags and its short running time will draw in viewers in an emotional way.

MORE DETAILS AT: www.norgantheatre.com

TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
**25TH ANNIVERSARY
AMALGAMATION
ART CONTEST**

Showcase your talent and submit your artwork or idea for an opportunity to have your artwork displayed on a Township building!

Submissions due by April 12, 2024

Win \$1000

For full contest guidelines visit wellington-north.com

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
GRANT**

PORTAL CLOSES JAN. 31, 2024
or if the funds run out before then.

LIMITED TIME TO APPLY FOR \$2500

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GET STARTED WITH THE
PRE-QUALIFICATION QUIZ AT
www.digitalmainstreet.ca/DTG4

2024 Hours
Tuesday 8-8pm
Wednesday 3-8pm
Thursday 2-8pm
and 8-8pm
Friday 2-8pm
Saturday 11am-1pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

Wild Things by Jim Dillabough

January 9th to February 23rd, 2024
Minto Arts Gallery, Harriston
(Top floor of the Public Library)
Artists' Reception: January 11th from 6:30-8pm

<p>Town of Minto Belinda Wick-Graham 519-338-2511 ext. 241 belinda@town.minto.on.ca</p>	<p>Township of Wellington North Robyn Mulder 519-848-3620 ext. 4234 rmulder@wellington-north.com</p>	<p>Mapleton Township Amy Grosse 519.638.3313 ext. 037 agrosse@mapleton.ca</p>
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