



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

WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE COMMITTEE MINUTES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15TH, IN KENILWORTH

Members Present:	Chair Bonny McDougall, Sue Doherty,	Doris Cassan, Councillor Penny Renken.	Faye Craig,
Members Absent:	Cliff Boicey, Gerald Townsend	Linda Hruska June Turner,	Tim McIntosh,
Staff & Guests:	Tasha Grafos Crystal Seifried	Mandy Jones Dale Small	Robyn Mulder Mike Wilson

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA & MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 12:01pm by Chair Bonny. Moved by Faye and seconded by Doris that the agenda for the February 18th meeting be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

Moved by Doris and seconded by Penny that the minutes of the November 29th meeting be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Robyn Mulder was introduced to the team. Robyn is the new Economic Development Officer replacing Dale, who is retiring later this spring. Moving forward Robyn will be the primary contact for the Cultural Roundtable.

Mike Wilson was introduced to the team. Mike is the new Community Development Coordinator and will also provide some support to the Cultural Roundtable with communications, Cultural Moments, etc.

Mandy Jones was introduced to the team. Mandy is the Community & Economic Development Manager for the Township.

Roundtable introductions were then completed.

PRESENTATION

Mandy then provided the Cultural Roundtable with a presentation on the Wellington North Strategic Plan. Copies of the Strategic Plan were provided to all committee members.

An update was also provided on the 2023 Year In Review and a draft copy of the final report was also shared with the committee.

UPDATE ON WORKPLAN ITEMS

Workplan Item 1 **Wellington North Farmers Market**. Robyn provided an update on the report that went to council on February 12th. This year the market will open for the 11th year on June 15th and close on September

28th. Consistent with previous years, expense is mostly offset by revenues generated from vendor fees, grants, and the sale of Market Boxes. Market location & vendors fee will stay the same. Our intent is to hire a Summer Student, like past years, to be the Market Manager. We hope to have Entertainment at least once a month and our intent is to work towards establishing a market in Arthur in the near future.

Workplan Item 2 **Cultural Funding & Grants Program**: Two applications were approved in 2023. \$500 to the Arthur Barn Quilt Trail Project and \$1,000 to the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival. 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. \$2,000 has been budgeted for 2024 and no applications have been received to date. Roundtable members were asked to reach-out to their networks to encourage applications.

Workplan Item 3 **Cultural Moments**: Copies of the January 15th Cultural Moment celebrating Olive (Palmer) Diefenbacher and the February 12th Cultural Moment celebrating Black History Month were shared with the roundtable. Currently we do not have Cultural Moments for March and April.

Workplan Item 4 **Simply explore culture website & domain renewals**: The annual domain renewal and website hosting fees, in the amount of \$900 have been paid for 2024. A recommendation will be coming to a future Cultural Roundtable Meeting recommending we eliminate this site and start over.

Workplan Item 5 **Wellington North Culture Days**: We continue to grow this program and in 2024 Culture Days will launch with the 25th anniversary of amalgamation Art Contest & celebration. The Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer welcome is scheduled for Sept 12th and along with the Metz Pumpkinfest, Lynes Blacksmith Shop, and our second annual Artisan Showcase we look forward to another successful Culture Days.

Doris and Tasha also gave an update on the Art Contest that recently launched. They have been interviewed by the Wellington Advertiser and submissions are now being received. Roundtable members should reach out to their networks to encourage participation. Dale was also asked to reach out to Cliff Smith and to encourage Cliff to submit a piece of art. (Cliff was subsequently contacted on February 20th) Our intent is to showcase some of the submissions at the April 18th Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer Welcome.



TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
25TH ANNIVERSARY
AMALGAMATION
ART CONTEST

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

Submissions due by April 12, 2024

Win \$1000

  Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

For full contest guidelines visit wellington-north.com

Workplan Item 6 **Minto, Hanover, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Partnership**. Wellington North is taking the lead on a Tourism Growth Program Grant application to support Culture Days/Culture Bus, Driftscape application, DEI Training and ON Culture Guide. The next joint meeting with our partners is scheduled for Friday May 31st 10:00am – 2:00pm in Hanover. Details to follow.

ROUNDTABLE ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISCUSSION

Councillor Renken discussed Heritage Designations and identifying properties with Historical significance and will bring a recommendation to the next committee meeting.

Faye mentioned about a trip to the Canadian War Museum and is working on getting Canada's Most Patriotic Village more recognized at this location.

Doris is working on a Wellington North wide garage sale to take place on May 18th.

Bonny mentioned that Jeff McKee is taking over the BizBull.

Dale brought the Roundtables attention to the following upcoming events:

- 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.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on Thursday March 21st, 2024, at noon in Kenilworth.

There will be no April meeting, as everyone is encouraged to register and attend the Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer Welcome in Arthur on April 18th.

May will be a joint meeting with Minto & Hanover, in Hanover, on May 31st from 10:00 am to 2:00pm.

Moved by Faye that the Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:35 PM

CARRIED