

# Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Meeting Agenda Thursday June 20th, 2024 Noon in Kenilworth

COMMITTE	E:Linda Hruska Doris Cassan Sue Doherty Councillor Penny Renke	Bonny McDougall Faye Craig Gerald Townsend n	June Turr Tim McInt Trina Reio	tosh
OTHERS:	Tasha Grafos Mike Wilson	Mandy Jones Karren Wallace	Robyn Mu Darren Jo	
	<b>d approval of agenda</b> a provided			Chair Bonny
<ul><li>Review an</li><li>Minutes</li><li>Minutes</li></ul>	Chair Bonny			
Resignation June Tu Sue Do	Chair Bonny			
Historical	Clerk Karren CBO Darren			
Art Contes submissio	Tasha			
Workpla	a <b>workplan items</b> an Item 1 Wellington North Brief update	Farmers Market		Robyn/ Rhiannon &
• E	an Item 2 Cultural Grants & Brief update			Mike & Tasha
	an Item 3 Cultural Moments April 8, Jesse James April 22, 25th Anniversary c May 6, Arthur Lions Duck R May 21, Farm to Table Sale	of Amalgamation	(page 6) (page 7) (page 8) rket (page 9)	



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

<ul> <li>June 3, York Soaring Association</li> </ul>	(page 109)
<ul> <li>Workplan Item 4 Simply Explore Culture website.</li> <li>Nothing to report</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Workplan Item 5 Wellington North Culture Days         <ul> <li>25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Amalgamation Art Contest a</li> <li>Artisan Showcase- Look at potentially renaming entice other creative ideas and works. Possibly Location and date?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	g this event to
<ul> <li>Workplan Item 6 Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundt         <ul> <li>Partnership on a Tourism Growth Program Grassupport Culture Days/Culture Bus, Driftscape a ON Culture Guide, etc was submitted</li> <li>Recap - Joint Cultural Symposium Friday May 2:00pm) in Hanover to include DEI Training, Culture Planning, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	nt Application to pplication, and 31 <sup>st</sup> (10:00am –
<ul> <li>Other items         <ul> <li>Your Town Rising - update</li> <li>Cultural Roundtable Program Funding and Spo application to consider from the Four Corners C</li> <li>Barn Quilt – plaques</li> <li>Mount Forest Cemetery</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Roundtable items &amp; Upcoming events</li> <li>Items of interest to be raised by committee members.         <ul> <li>Apr/May/Jun Culture Page ads attached.</li> <li>Your Town Rising – Mount Forest &amp; Arthur Update.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	All (page 11-13)
Date of Next Meetings and adjournment <ul> <li>August 15 Council Chambers</li> </ul>	Chair Bonny

# WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE COMMITTEE MINUTES THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2024 IN KENILWORTH

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

# **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA & MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 12:10pm by Chair Bonny. The agenda was amended; Robyn modified the date on the Culture Page advertisement, Mike included "Fun Facts" under Other items, and Doris added "Friends of Downtown Arthur" also under Other items. Moved by Linda and seconded by Doris that the agenda for the March 21, 2024 meeting be approved as amended. **CARRIED** 

Doris requested that the year be added to the minutes.

Moved by Councillor Renken and seconded by Linda that the minutes of the February 18, 2024, meeting be approved as amended.

### CARRIED

### **UPDATE ON WORKPLAN ITEMS**

Workplan Item 1 **Wellington North Farmers' Market**. Robyn advised that applications are coming in, with six received to date. Market Box Day for Wellington North has been confirmed for July 30. Robyn has reached out to a couple that have done live music in the past and is waiting to hear back on their availability.

Workplan Item 2 **Cultural Funding and Grants Program**: Mike advised that no applications have been submitted for this program to date. The maximum budget for the grant is \$2,000 and submissions can be made all year. Large culturally significant events only, may apply.

**ACTION:** Mike to make the application forms printer friendly by reducing the amount of black ink and update the online form so it is fillable.

Workplan Item 3 **Cultural Moments**: Mike showed the committee the video for the Art Contest, which was very well received by all committee members in attendance. An overview of future Cultural moments and who is responsible is outlined below:

**ACTION:** April 8: Bonny, Arthur Trails. Highlight of the three founding volunteers Jack Benham, Ian Turner, Dave Stack / appreciation for private landowners.

**ACTION:** April 22: Doris, Anniversary of amalgamation. Complete.

ACTION: May 6: Faye, Arthur Lions Duck Race

ACTION: May 21: Doris, Farm Gate / Wellington North Farmers' Market
ACTION: June 3: Bonny, York Soaring
ACTION: June 24: Doris, History of Kenilworth. George Epoch patented an agricultural grubber.
ACTION: July 8: Bonny, Jessie James
ACTION: July 22: Councillor Renken, Charles McKeller, custodian - putting up the new signage for the cemetery or Frederick Campbell
ACTION: August 12: June, Art Gallery

### Workplan Item 4 Simply explore culture website & domain renewals:

**ACTION:** Mike will look at the analytics to see how much traffic the website is getting, as well as take a look at the current content and see if some of it can be transferred over to the Simply Explore website. A recommendation may come to a future Cultural Roundtable Meeting to eliminate this site.

#### Workplan Item 5 Wellington North Culture Days:

#### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Amalgamation Art contest and Celebration:

Reminder to committee to get the word out for people to submit their art as we are looking for more submissions prior to April 12th. An idea was shared: A mural highlighting significant landmarks in the community (Arthur and Mount Forest water towers, Mount Forest "High, Healthy, Happy" entrance sign, poppies, trees, wheat/corn, United Church, former municipal logos/crests, etc.).

**ACTION:** Tasha to connect with June for a list of the vendors that attended the Artisan Showcase in 2023 to send the Art contest to.

#### Artisan Showcase:

Look at potentially calling this event another name to entice other creative ideas and works. Possibly rebrand. **ACTION:** Robyn to add this item to the June agenda for discussion.



Workplan Item 6 **Minto, Hanover, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Partnership. ACTION:** Robyn will send out more information and an invitation once all the details are confirmed.

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

#### Heritage designations and heritage discussion:

The Municipality has a registry of designated heritage buildings on the website that is available to the public, with three properties currently listed.

Penny shared a list that was compiled by summer students and Jim, that shows properties that are historically significant and stated that our list should be inclusive, not just municipal properties only.

Additional information is required from Darren and Dale about the process related to identifying historically significant buildings.

**ACTION**: Community and Economic Development team to follow-up with Dale and Darren on historically significant buildings in the community.

### Barn Quilt - plaques:

**ACTION**: Community and Economic Development to research the meaning behind the Cultural Roundtable logo design and share with the Committee.

**ACTION**: Doris to investigate a price to create a plaque explaining the meaning of the logo, that will then be installed near the Cultural Roundtable Barn Quilts.

#### Mount Forest Cemetery:

Mandy advised that the Cultural Roundtable was mentioned at the March 11, 2024, Council meeting related to the Mount Forest Cemetery.

**ACTION**: Mandy to email out the YouTube link and include the time stamp.

#### Fun Facts:

Committee to send an email to Mike with ideas and images. These ideas will go out on social media.

#### Friends of Downtown Arthur:

**ACTION**: Robyn will add to next agenda.

# **ROUNDTABLE ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISCUSSION**

Faye – Hitching post in Arthur. ACTION: Faye to explore possibilities

#### Upcoming events:

- March 29<sup>th</sup> Grants and Donations Applications due.
- April 14<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> is National Volunteer Week and April 18<sup>th</sup> is our next Volunteer Celebration & Newcomer Welcome in Arthur from 4:30pm – 7:00pm.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Moved by Linda that the Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be adjourned at 2:10 PM. **CARRIED** 



## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 8, 2024

### CELEBRATING JESSE JAMES, THE OUTLAW

Did Jesse James ride the country roads of Wellington County?

Between the end of the Civil War and his murder in 1882 at the hands of gang member Bob Ford, Jesse James was America's most notorious bandit. In the company of his brother Frank, their pals the Younger brothers, and other assorted ne'er-do-wells, James plundered banks, trains and stagecoaches.

Because of his "business," his whereabouts were not documented; however, according to local stories, Jesse James spent at least one winter in the area, dividing his time between Wellington and Grey counties. He was allegedly seen riding a beautiful horse on the backroads and was said to have various hideouts along his way north. In 1873, a botched train robbery at Turkey Creek, lowa may have brought Jesse and Frank James to Ontario, as they were not seen in the United States for months.



Some stories say James did chores on a farm near Hopeville, and had meals with a peichbour, named William Armstrong, who was a farmer and a preacher. In the forest near the road between Hopeville and Dundalk there was a small shack where a man named Chadwell lived. No one really knows whether Chadwell was his real name because he also used other names. The shack was crude but well hidden. Mr. Armstrong recalled, "Jesse James was a fir sized man. He never taked. He would come in, eat his meals and walk out."

In one oft-repeated story, James was riding that beautiful horse through Guelph Township when he came to a tollgate. He tossed a \$20 gold piece to the gatekeeper, a young woman named Jane Lillie, because it was the smallest change he had. Lillie eventually moved to West Gazafraxa, and the story of the gold piece became part of local lore. The Jesse James stories were published from time to time in the Mount Forest Confederate and the Arthur Enterprise News.

Meanwhile in West Gacatraga, Jim Gow had a logging operation in the Luther and Grand Valley area. The logs were cut and hauled to the Grand River to be floated down to a sawmill east of Fergus. Gow said he hired James to work at his camp.

In an article in the Arthur Enterprise News, it described a man thought to be James riding a beautiful horse up the Owen Sound Road through town heading north to <u>blageville</u>. The next account of James comes from <u>Mulquir</u>. Township, where speculation has him burying gold along 10 Sideroad.

James was killed on April 3, 1882, in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Whether the story of James' time in our area is true or not, we will never know for sure. But what is interesting is that while James was supposedly in the area there was a bank robbery in Guelph and the thieves were never apprehended.

While we'll probably never know the facts, sometimes legends make reality and become more useful than facts.

Submitted by Bonny McDougail, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 8, 2024

## CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMALGAMATION



This year, 2024, marks the 25th anniversary of the amalgamation that resulted in the Township of Wellington North.

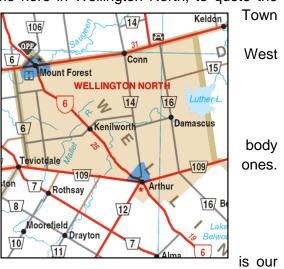
Celebrations are planned and an art contest has been announced (more on that later!). "Stronger Together Since 1999" is the 25th anniversary slogan.

Our new home here in Wellington North, to quote the

Township of Wellington North's website, "was created in 1999 from the of Mount Forest, the Village of Arthur, the Townships of West Luther and Arthur, as well some of the outlying areas in the Townships of Peel and Garafraxa. Stretching over 526 square kilometres, it is now home to over 12,500 people. Wellington North is expected to grow to approximately 20,500 people by 2051 (an increase of more than 64 per cent)."



An amalgamation means one governing and one budget instead of many smaller It means a stronger voice and a more powerful financial position. It means a diversity of backgrounds and skills and knowledge with which we can go "Semper Porro" – Latin for "Always Forward" – which municipal motto.



Wellington North's strengths include our strong agricultural base. We can enjoy food straight from the source in many cases. We are close enough to the services we need but far away enough to escape

the noise and light pollution. We can choose to live within walking distance of conveniences or in a place where we can walk for hours without meeting anyone.



This year, join together to celebrate our home. As you reflect upon this municipality that has now been amalgamated for 25 years, you may have an idea for the art contest. Three pieces will be chosen for display in Mount Forest, Kenilworth, and Arthur to illustrate our commitment to community. See full details of the contest at wellington-north.com.

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



# CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 6, 2024

## CELEBRATING THE ARTHUR LIONS DUCK RACE



For the past 30 years one of the 'rights of Spring' in the Village of Arthur has been the annual Lions Club Duck Race. Held on the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend, it has become a favourite of children and adults alike.

This event was the brainchild of Lion Jerry Paul and has been held every year through all kinds of weather. It has seen warm sunshine, bitter cold and windy snow showers, high water levels when the ducks couldn't be caught, and low water levels when the ducks couldn't <u>move</u> and the winning tickets had to be drawn from a drum.

The race itself is the culmination of many activities that start mid-morning and wrap up with the race at 2 p.m., starting with the dumping of the ducks off the George Street bridge and finishing at the bridge on Charles Street. One of the favourite activities for children, when it is safe to do so, is

following the ducks down the river and helping any that get caught in the rocks, or along the banks. They are also a big help to the Lions in gathering all the ducks after the winners have made it over the finish line.

Other activities over the years have been face painting, balloon-making, bouncy castles, rock climbing, a road hockey tournament, a children's singsong, plant sales, vendors market, and displays and demonstrations by the volunteer fire department. And, of course, lunch and snacks are always available at the Lions' food booth.

The ducks are pre-sold through a lottery where every ticket sold has its number attached to a duck. Prizes are given to the ticket holders of the first three ducks, as well as other random draws from the same tickets.

Tickets are on sale through April right up to the morning of the race. They can be obtained from any member of the club, or at the venue on Francis Street prior to the race.

All proceeds from the event go back into our community through various programs throughout the community, from minor sports clubs to the Christmas Hamper program.

It's a family and community event and the Lions are very

grateful for the support given by the neighbours on Francis Street, especially Jim Dingman and Ted and Judy Watt, who generously offer their hydro for the club's use during the day, as well as room for the bouncy castle and other activities. They also appreciate that residents on the street don't object when the street is closed from early morning until mid-afternoon, and lawns sometimes get trampled in varying conditions.

Along the lines of "it takes a community to raise a child," it also follows that "it takes cooperation to make a community." The Lions certainly get the cooperation of the Francis Street residents for this annual event!

The Lions look forward to seeing you on Francis Street on Saturday, May 11 this year!

Submitted by Faye Craig, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



# CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 21, 2024

## CELEBRATING FARM TO TABLE SALES AND THE FARMERS' MARKET

Consider the usual journey undertaken by your fruits and vegetables to the grocery store. Days can pass before they arrive from their place of origin. As time passes, the nutrients and taste of food decline. There are a variety of ways to take advantage of direct farm marketing. Most people know about farmers' markets, but there are other methods of getting fresh produce. A popular option in Wellington North is some form of on-farm process.

Often called farm gate or roadside, these stands teem with fresh food and flowers through summer and fall. You may find something as simple as a farm wagon or a buggy parked on the roadside. Some farmers will build rustic little stands or huts that can somewhat protect the buyer from the weather. Many of these operations are provided on an honour system for payment because everyone on the farm is busy with production. Sadly, there is the occasional instance of people taking

advantage of that trust, but most understand the idea of paying for their purchases.

"Pick Your Own" operations are another way to enjoy fresh-to-the-table food. It is a great outdoor family activity with the reward of eating food you have picked with your own hands. Children learn in a meaningful way, where our food comes from. These businesses require more supervision to ensure that pickers are in the right area of the field, and that damage is kept to a minimum.

A Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)



subscription provides an assortment of fresh produce to the consumer in a regularly available assortment of whatever is ripe on the farm. Although the boxing up of various food shares requires time and labour, the timing is flexible to allow the farmer to get important work done. Some farms will offer a half-share of a CSA for those who are not cooking for a family.

If you prefer a more traditional approach to buying farm products, the Wellington North Farmers' Market is the place for you. With several vendors offering fresh produce, meat, and other agricultural products, the Wellington North Farmers' Market is a great place to shop locally while buying fresh product directly from the source.

The Wellington North Farmers' Market opens for the season on Saturday, June 15 at 8:30 a.m. at the Victory Community Centre, 320 King Street in Mount Forest. The Market will run every Saturday until September 28. Check out the Market on Facebook for more information.

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



# CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JUNE 3, 2024

# CELEBRATING THE YORK SOARING ASSOCIATION

The York Soaring Association was founded in 1961 by Walter Chmela, who came to Canada from his native Austria in 1950. Operations commenced when Walter personally purchased two Dopplacash twoseat trainers and an Auster as a tow-plane. Walter realized that the future of York Soaring was dependent upon the club owning its own airfield. In 1969, he purchased the field the club still operates on today in the former West Garafraxa.

The field was initially a 100-acre property, 8 kilometres east of Arthur and, upon purchasing it, a hangar was built and a single 2,000-foot



east-to-west runway was graded. A few years later, an adjoining 100-acre property was added and a northwest-tosoutheast runway, as well as a southwest-to-northeast runway was built. Another larger hanger was added for club aircraft and the original hanger was left for use by private owners.

York Soaring has an active social committee that puts on regular barbecues and fundraising dinners. Their next big event is on Saturday, June 22, when York Soaring hosts an Antique Aircraft Fly-In, starting at 10:00 AM and ending at sunset. More information can be found at yorksoaring.com.

York Soaring also has a group that specializes in mentoring badge and cross-country flying, and others that take part in excursions to other flying venues around the world such as the United States, France, and New Zealand. York Soaring is also the home base of Youth Flight Canada (YFC) and Freedom's Wings. YFC provides bursaries to deserving young people who need financial assistance to fly. YFC pays 50% of their nominal membership fee and all but \$5.00 of each flight.

In May 2007, Walter received national recognition for his almost 70 years of service to soaring by being inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame.

Having grown up on the farm next to the club, it was one of Bonny McDougall's jobs to go to the area at the end of the runway and look for tow ropes. They would occasionally snap off the <u>tow</u> planes as they were coming in for landing.



"When I found one, I would take it back to the hanger and have a visit with Walter and after I was 16, I got a complimentary glider ride with him. They were and continue to be wonderful geighbours."

The older gliders have all been replaced with 6 updated <u>planes</u> being basic trainers and high-performance trainers, as well as increasing the tow planes from 2 to 4.

By following the vision for York Soaring that Walter had almost 50 years ago, York Soaring continues to bring new members into the very special

world of soaring. Whatever your age or physical ability, you are welcome at York Soaring. It's getting better all the time.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable





