THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING AGENDA THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 @ 12:00 PM WELLINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY, ARTHUR

TIME	SUBJECT	PAGE	LEAD	ACTION			
12:00 PM	Calling to Order		Chair				
	Adoption of Agenda						
	Recommendation: THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable approves the agenda for the January 16, 2025, meeting as presented.		Chair	Resolution			
	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest						
			Chair				
	Minutes of Previous Meeting – November 14, 2024 (approved by Council on December 2, 2024)						
	Recommendation:						
	THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee receives for information the minutes of the November 14, 2024, Committee Meeting.		Chair	Resolution			
	Deputation						
	None		Chair				
12:30pm	2:30pm Business Arising						
	None		Chair				
12:50pm	Update on Workplan Items						
	Workplan Item 1: Wellington North Farmers' Market		EDO				
	 Workplan Item 2: Cultural Grants and Donations Mount Forest Diwali Celebration (verbal update) 		CDC				
	 Workplan Item 3: Cultural Moments November 18 – Duke of Wellington December 2 – 1985 Tornado December 16 – Harold "Toad" Reeves 	001 002 003	CDC				
	Workplan Item 5: Wellington North Culture Days						
	Workplan Item 6: Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundtable partnership						
	Tourism Growth ProgramSaugeen Culture GuideDriftscape	005	EDO				

1:30pm	Other Items				
	 Strathcona Long Term Care and local art exhibit 2025 Meeting schedule 	007			
1:40pm	Items for Consideration				
	 Wellington Advertiser Cultural Ads November December 	008 009	EDO		
1:45pm	Upcoming Events				
	Cultural Symposium May 30, 2025 Hosted by: Town of Minto		EDO / CDC		
1:45pm	Roundtable				
	(verbal)		All		
	Date of next meeting and adjournment				
	February 20, 2025, VirtualRecommendation:THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committeemeeting of January 16, 2025, be adjourned atp.m.		Chair	Resolution	



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

CULTURAL MOMENT FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2024

CELEBRATING THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON



Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington in approximately 1841.

What are the origins of the names Wellington County and the Village of Arthur?

As Ontario was settled under British rule, place names were often chosen to reflect British gentry who had distinguished themselves in battle. The Duke of Wellington, Arthur Wellesley, was one such. The Village of Arthur bears his first name and Wellesley Township bears his surname. His title was used for Wellington County.

Born in 1769 into an aristocratic Anglo-Irish family and heir to the Earl of Mornington, Wellesley was active in wars in Mysore, India, and was famously part of the Napoleonic wars. His adaptive defensive style of warfare is still studied today, as it minimizes losses, especially when faced with a superior number of foes.

After retiring from active duty, Wellington returned to politics and served twice as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. His nickname of "Iron Duke" seems to have less to do with his battle strategy and more to do with his politics, though it could be

attributed to the installation of iron shutters on his home to protect from rioters.

Arthur married Catherine Packenham, known as Kitty, and they had two sons, Arthur and Charles. The couple themselves did not spend a lot of time together, partly due to Wellington's duties in warfare and partly because they were not well suited. Kitty died of cancer in 1831 and Arthur's married lover, Harriet, died of cholera in 1834, so Arthur spent his final days living at one of his homes with the companionship of the husband of his deceased lover.

Arthur died at the age of 83 after what was diagnosed as a stroke with subsequent seizures. From all accounts, he never visited Canada.



The Duke of Wellington at Waterloo.

An example of the extent to which Canadian place naming depended upon British gentry, are the three townships of Tiny, Tay and Flos (near Penetanguishene) which were named after the pet dogs of Lady Sarah Maitland, wife of the Lieutenant General of Canada, Sir Peregrine Maitland. The area is now known as Springwater.

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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CULTURAL MOMENT FOR DECEMBER 2, 2024

CELBRATES COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FOLLOWING 1985 TORNADO

Tornadoes are not new to the area.

In the past 130 or so years of recorded history, references to tornadoes have been made in 1902, 1923, 1954, 1957, 1959, 1983, 1985, 1996, 2015... In three of those years - 1957, 1985 and 1996 - the tornadoes all followed a similar path along the 2nd of Luther.

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of the devastating May 31, 1985 tornado. This powerful storm carved a path of destruction from Peel Township through Arthur Township and West Luther, all the way to Barrie. It left behind a trail of damaged farms, homes, and buildings, with one funnel cloud moving southeast through Peel and V



way to Barrie. It left behind a trail of *Photo of damage from the May 31, 1985 tornado. Photo from the damaged farms, homes, and Arthur and Area Historical Society.*

moving southeast through Peel and West Garafraxa toward Belwood.

The response in our area was second to none by first responders, police, fire department and paramedics. Neighbours banded together, and an army of volunteers, coordinated by Jack Benham and his runners, Jack Lennox and Murray Langdon, sprang into action. They assessed the needs of affected farms and organized the necessary help and equipment for the following day, with the Arthur Curling Club serving as the headquarters.

The other army of volunteers from area churches and service clubs were coordinated by Muriel Morrison to prepare meals for the workers. Some were bussed into the Community Centre at lunchtime, while some meals were delivered to the sites.

An integral part of the cleanup and later the rebuilding of the lives of so many came from the Mennonite community. A tireless and skilled group who worked continually through the rain and mud to salvage what they could and then started the building process for the victims of this disaster.

Additionally, Bill Smellie, Fred Green, and Duane Shaw loaded their vehicles each morning with coffee, donuts, sandwiches, and cold drinks, delivering them to the OPP, hydro workers, and volunteers who were working around the clock. Many displaced residents found refuge with close friends or family, and John Walsh, another unsung hero, went to the pharmacy late at night to fill prescriptions for those in need.

We are fortunate to live in such a generous and supportive community but keep our eyes to the sky.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



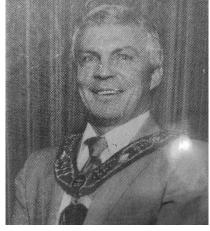
Preserving, promoting, and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

CULTURAL MOMENT FOR DECEMBER 2, 2024 CELBRATES HAROLD 'TOAD' REEVES

Harold 'Toad' Reeves is a name that resonates deeply with the residents of Wellington North, particularly in Mount Forest. Born on July 1, 1937, Toad was the sixth of fourteen children in the Reeves family. Despite his small size at birth, which earned him the nickname 'Toad,' he grew up to be a significant figure in the community.

Toad's early years were filled with typical childhood adventures, including joining the Boy Scouts and spending countless hours playing hockey and baseball. He was often seen riding his bike to various fishing spots with his friends. His involvement in the family business, Reeves Construction, began at a young age, and by 18, he was named superintendent of bridge building.

In 1955, Toad married Marion Noreen Weber, and together they had three children: Katherine, Michael, and James.



Harold 'Toad' Reeves

In 1963, tragedy struck at a job site in Hepworth while pouring footings for a bridge. Hydropower jumped 14 feet and hit the crane, causing immediate electrical shock to Toad and another worker. The power hit Toad in the chest, resulting in the amputation of his arm. He was fitted with a heavy artificial spring-back arm and endured years of insurmountable pain. Despite this, Toad continued to build bridges and work with the family, adoring his children and grandchildren, and becoming more involved in the community and sports. He was a founding member of the Mount Forest Drifters snowmobile club, part of the award-winning WOAA Intermediate hockey team, and an umpire in men's baseball.



Toad Reeves, 1970 Champion, with 1970 Speedway Queen Diane Bryan.

In the mid-60s, Toad raced go-karts at Hillers and Cromwells, the Mount Forest go-kart track, always managing to outpace his opponents with his fearless driving. From the late 60s to the 70s, with the ingenuity of Ray Spencer, Toad and his legendary racing team the Mount Forest Connection – raced to victory at They almost everv event. traveled across southwestern Ontario, racing on both dirt and pavement tracks. Former racers recall the helpful, hard-working crew and their innovative designs and adaptations of motors and car chassis. Toad, a onearmed race car driver, trailblazed for people with disabilities in sports. He operated his vehicle, including the legendary bee bomber called the Flintstone Flyer, using a spindle hand mount to move the steering wheel with his artificial arm and hand. Nothing could stop him. One night, during a long endurance race, the

003

power steering failed on the second lap. Toad managed to maneuver the car without power steering, not only finishing but winning the race, despite severe injuries to his good hand.

In 1974, Toad was elected to town council and fought for many issues on behalf of his constituents. In 1976, he was elected mayor and was involved in the police commission, bringing Westinghouse (now the Cooley Group) to Mount Forest, and spearheading the town's economic development. In 1982, he was elected to county council and played a key role in building the new Mount Forest Fire Hall. He served on various committees, including finance, legislation, bylaws, and PUC liaison. He was also the town's representative on the North Wellington Landfill Site committee and the economic development appointee.

Toad was instrumental in preventing school closures in Arthur, Palmerston, Fergus, and Mount Forest. He suggested building their own schools and an entire school board for the area if closures occurred. In 1984, he helped establish the North Wellington Advisory Group (now Community Resource Group), which changed social programming in Wellington North for years to come. This group identified needs and resources for families, individuals with disabilities, housing, and more, securing provincial funding for much-needed programs in rural areas.

Toad was also involved in developing the White Bluffs area, including Oakview Crescent, which opened on December 2, 1976. During his time in office, Toad was respected and loved by both his supporters and opponents. In his spare time, he enjoyed coaching and spending time with his family, often visiting McGinty's for ice cream with his grandchildren.



Marion and Harold Reeves.

In 1981, Toad began building the Forest Court Medical Centre on Main Street North, which was completed in 1985. It was the first of its kind in Mount Forest and is now home to multiple commercial businesses. Harold Reeves passed away suddenly on May 15, 1986, at Louise Marshall Hospital from a heart attack at 48 years old. This hard-working, often impetuous man who chose nontraditional paths was one of the most unique individuals, and his life and work touched everyone in Mount Forest in some way. Toad will always be remembered as a person who gave his undivided attention, remembered who you were, and listened when you spoke. It is only fitting that we celebrate someone like Toad Reeves, an admirable fighter both personally and professionally. In an article by Dave Wenger, publisher of the Mount Forest Confederate, he was described as "A lion of a man" - a fitting tribute to a man whose courage stayed with him until his unfortunate passing.

Submitted by Trina Reid, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

This guide represents a weekend-long experience, highlighting the many wonderful destinations in the area.



ITINERARY

1. HANOVER

- The Past Reflected in the Present
- Life Along the Saugeen

2. MINTO

- The Legacy of the Railway
- From Food to Flowers
- Minto Makes Art, and Theatre...and Ice Cream

3. WELLINGTON NORTH

- Local History, Local Eats
- Blacksmiths, Birders and Distilleries



Find a full itinerary and location links here:

onculturedays.ca/saugeen-region

ON Culture Days



Ontario Culture Days is a not-for-profit organization that celebrates artists and cultural groups in our communities. We are dedicated to fostering the public's engagement with Ontario's arts, culture and heritage as a means of enriching our communities while supporting the vibrancy and sustainability of our sector.

Ontario Culture Days thanks our Tourism Partners for their support and assistance with this guide. All editorial decisions were made at the sole discretion of Ontario Culture Days staff. This guide was written by Li Robbins.

The Township of Wellington North, the Town of Minto, and Hanover are recipients of a Tourism Growth Program grant from the Federal Economic Development for Southern Ontario.

Our Tourism Partners:



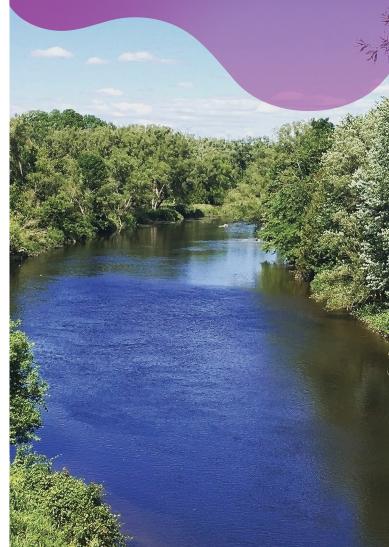
Cover photos: courtesy of the Town of Minto

Hanover: photo courtesy of Hanover Drive-In; photo courtesy of Shultz's Gone Totally Baked; photo courtesy of Paramount Theatre.

Minto: photo courtesy of Palmerston Railway Heritage Museum; Photo courtesy of the Town of Minto; Photo courtesy of The Magic Ice Cream Shoppe. Wellington North: photos courtesy of the Mount Forest Museum and Archives Collection; photo courtesy of Silver Fox Distillery

ON Culture Days

SAUGEEN CULTURE GUIDE HANOVER, MINTO, WELLINGTON NORTH





Friendly people, historic downtowns, fresh local produce and the great outdoors – that's what you'll find throughout Hanover, Minto and Wellington North. Not only that, but the Saugeen region happens to be a bit of a road less travelled – just waiting for you to explore.

HANOVER THE PAST REFLECTED IN THE PRESENT



The story goes that Hanover's first doctor arrived in town after letting his horse choose the turns in the road. Thanks to that equine, Dr. George Landerkin made his home in Hanover, going on to become not just a renowned physician but also a

member of Canadian Parliament. Learn about Dr. Landerkin and view his house, along with other historic Hanover buildings, using the Heritage Story Map, conveniently available on the Driftscape App. It's the perfect guide for your next stroll through town.



At Heritage Square you'll find the past reflected in the present, with informational tidbits about Hanover's history. Did you know Hanover was home to Canada's first Brownies pack? Incidentally, if the word "brownies" conjures up sweet treats, you'll be

pleased to discover Schultz's Gone Totally Baked, famous for their donuts, is located on one side of the square. Today, the former furniture manufacturing site contains a music garden, amphitheatre and a plaza for everything from markets to music.

Hanover is a HIPP, vibrant community waiting for you to discover what it has to offer – you can even take the Cultural Quiz at hippculture.ca to see what type of cultural explorer you are!

LIFE ALONG THE SAUGEEN



Hanover is a key access point to the Saugeen River, one of Southern Ontario's most popular paddling routes. An access point can be found at the Hanover Park. You can enjoy the Saugeen from its shores as well, thanks to 11 kilometers of walking, biking

and cross-country skiing trails. Hanover's cultural life is far

from limited to the outdoors though, as a visit to the Civic Theatre proves. The Civic Theatre has operated as an arts and cultural centre for over 100 years, and seen many a musician and dancer performing on its stage. Hankering for a movie? Check out indie movie theatre The Paramount, keeping popcorn popping since 1922. Or you could have a retro movie experience at the Hanover Drive-In Theatre, one of Ontario's last remaining screens under the sky.

2 MINTO THE LEGACY OF THE RAILWAY



Picturesque Minto is just a halfhour drive south of Hanover and an hour from Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph. It's where you'll find the Palmerston Railway Heritage Museum, providing an opportunity to ride a hand car, explore the restored station and

cross the impressive pedestrian bridge. (Open seasonally.)

The history of the railroad in this part of Ontario is truly etched into the land, as White's Junction Trail demonstrates. It's a seven-kilometre path for hiking, cycling, cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing that was developed along a former CN line. It's a lovely trail that takes you past two trestle bridges and one of the most northern stands of tall Prairie grasses in Canada.

FROM FOOD TO FLOWERS



Given Minto's agricultural setting it's no surprise there are plenty of good local eats to be had, for instance at Barrel House Canada, known for goodies both sweet and sour (pickles are a specialty). As well, the barrelmakers-turned-bakers sell one-

of-a-kind woodworks. May's Café at the Old Post (located in the restored federal post office) is another spot to try, with made-from-scratch meals that include Jamaican dishes. For Mennonite-made fresh breads, pies, jams, sandwiches and more, stop at Homestyle Flavours, a favourite of passing cottagers and locals alike. Or you could bring local Minto treats back to your own home by stopping at Reroot Organic Farm to pick up seasonal produce, organic meats, local flours and more. From food to flowers, lovers of the African Violet take note: spectacular versions of your fuzzyleafed favourite are viewable by appointment at Violets in the Barn, a 15-minute drive from Reroot.

MINTO MAKES ART, AND THEATRE... AND ICE CREAM



The Minto Arts Gallery showcases the work of local artists as well as hosting coffee house concerts and film screenings, the latter at the Norgan Theatre. Nearby Clifford is home to the striking work of printmaker Wesley Bates, whose

unique wood-block prints have been shown around the world as well as illustrating books by authors including W.O. Mitchell and Stuart McLean. (Gallery open by appointment.) For local family history you'll want to dip into the archival treasure trove at the John Webb Gallery, organized by the Harriston Historical Society.

The Harriston Town Hall Theatre is home to the Grey-Wellington Theatre Guild, who've presented musicals, variety shows and Canadian plays for the past 50 years. Also check out The Magic Ice Cream Shoppe, the place to go for the usual flavours and a changing roster of unique concoctions. ("Algonquin Canoe," anyone?)

3 WELLINGTON NORTH LOCAL HISTORY, LOCAL EATS



Wellington North is dotted with small communities with intriguing names, like Damascus and Farewell. Amidst the beautiful agricultural and conservation lands you'll also find two larger centres, Arthur and Mount Forest. This gives

history buffs two potential stops to learn something of local history: the Mount Forest Museum and Archives and the Arthur and Area Historical Society. (Limited hours.)

While in town have a look at the Mount Forest branch of the

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Wellington County Library, a beautifully renovated classic Carnegie library. When it comes to yummy stuff Wellington North has much to offer, including the "country fresh" foodstuffs at Misty Meadows Market, just east of Mount Forest, and Sterre Café on George St. in Arthur, for food and gifts. Then pop into Arthur Cash and Carry for rustic and cottage themed decor and gifts.

BLACKSMITHS, BIRDERS AND DISTILLERIES



Along the drive from Mount Forest to Arthur you may want to stop in Kenilworth, home to the Lynes Blacksmith Shop. It's a handsome stone building that was originally a 19th century forge and carriage works, but sat empty for 60

years until major restoration began. The forge fire was re-lit in 2018 and today Lynes has new life for visitors interested in touring the blacksmith shop, the former family home and the grounds, complete with a nature trail. Speaking of nature, the Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area is just 25 minutes east of Kenilworth, and with over 264 bird species recorded is known as one of the best birdwatching spots in Ontario. Canoe and kayak the marsh, or hike and cycle along two marked trails.



Silver Fox Distillery, the No. 1 Spirit Distillery of North America in the U.S. Open Spirits Competition (2022 and 2023), makes its home in Arthur, and has quite a reputation for creating unique liquors and spirits — imbibables with

names like Dracula's Flower, Rhubarb Hibiscus Gin and Justin Beaver Rye Whiskey. Fans of Doctor Who will be charmed to discover that Silver Fox's proprietors have more than a bit of a Doctor Who passion, on view during a distillery tour. The spirits are the real star of the show though, as you'll discover if you linger at the Silver Fox tasting center.

Cultural Roundtable

2025 Meeting Schedule

Date	Location	Time	Comments
		12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
Thursday,	Arthur Library	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch provided
January 16			(Arthur Sandwich
			House)
Thursday,	Virtual	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
February 20			
Thursday,	Virtual	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
March 20			
Thursday,	Mount Forest Arena	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
April 17	Meeting Room		
Thursday,	Arthur Arena Upper	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
May 15	Leisure Hall		
Thursday,	Mount Forest Arena	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Farmers' Market
June 19	Meeting Room		Jun 14 – Sep 27, 2025
Thursday,	Arthur Library	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	2 nd Thursday due to
July 10			MF Fireworks Festival
Thursday,	Mount Forest Arena	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	
August 21	Meeting Room		
Thursday,	Arthur Arena Upper	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Culture Days
September 18	Leisure Hall		Sep 19 – Oct 12, 2025
Thursday,	Mount Forest Arena	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	· ·
October 16	Meeting Room		
Thursday,	Arthur Arena Upper	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	2 nd Thursday due to
November 13	Leisure Hall		Mayor's Bonspiel
Thursday,	Mount Forest Arena	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Holiday Lunch
December 11	Meeting Room		

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Mapleton

TULLAMORE

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Community News EDITION(s): November 21 By: Alicia Roza In partnership Northern Wellington **Culture, Arts** and Heritage Wellington North Our Northern Wellington partnership is working together to preserve, Cultural Minto Roundtable Mapleton promote and develop our unique cultural resources to support a vibrant inclusive community and a prosperous economy. **HOSTED BY THE** Mapleton Acres DRAYTON KINETTES Flower Farm m **28 NOVEMBER 2024 5PM TIL 9PM** SIP & SHOP 30+ VENDORS! ENTRY BY DONATION TO OUR PARK FUNDRAISER Holiday MOOREFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER BALL AVE, MOOREFIELD Workshop Monday December 2nd PMD ARENA at 6:30 pm \$500 in **NOVEMBER 30TH** Join us downtown Clifford before the Santa Claus 5:00PM-7:00PM Santa Claus Parade for holiday fun! Parades

Extended Shopping and Special Promotions, Blacksmithing demo, Rockin' Christmas tunes, Photo Ops, Food trucks, Horse and Wagon rides, firepit warming stations and even more!

Please bring a donation for the food bank & Community Pantry



Harriston Nov. 23 • 7pm

Arthur Nov. 30 • 7pm Clifford

Mount Forest

Dec. 6 • 7pm Moorefield

Dec. 7 · 1pm **Palmerston**





Nov. 30 • 7pm

Drayton Dec. 6 • 7pm Dec. 7 • 7pm

Dec. 14 • 1pm

Holstein

Alma Dec. 22 • 2pm



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Township of Wellington North Robyn Mulder 519-848-3620 ext. 4234 rmulder@wellington-north.com

Mapleton Township Amy Grose 519.638.3313 ext. 037 agrose@mapleton.ca

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