



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 @ 12:00 PM
VIRTUAL**

Committee Members Present:

- Doris Cassan, Acting Chair
- Linda Hruska, Member
- Trina Reid, Member (joined at 12:29 p.m.)
- Penny Renken, Member, Councillor
- Faye Craig, Member
- Bonny McDougall, Member (joined at 12:07 p.m.)
- Carol Vair, Member

Regrets:

- Tim McIntosh, Member

Staff Members Present:

- Robyn Mulder, Economic Development Officer
- Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator
- Mandy Jones, Manager of Recreation, Community & Economic Development (left at 12:44 p.m.)

Calling to Order

Chair Cassan called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Member Hruska
Seconded by Councillor Renken

THAT the agenda for the February 20, 2025, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be accepted and passed.

CARRIED

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Member McDougall for the St. Paul's United Church – Metz Pumpkinfest Cultural Grants and Donation application, as she is a member of the organizing committee for the event.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – January 16, 2025
(approved by Council on February 10, 2025)

Moved by Member Hruska
Seconded by Member Craig

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee receive for information the minutes of the January 16, 2025, Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

Deputation

None

Business Arising

None

Update on Workplan Items

Workplan Item 1: Wellington North Farmers' Market

- No updates

Workplan Item 2: Cultural Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations:

- Mount Forest Diwali Celebration (verbal update)

Diwali Celebration – Weather has prevented any meetings since the last Cultural Roundtable meeting; staff hope to have an update at the next meeting.

St. Paul's United Church – Metz Pumpkinfest – staff provided a brief overview of Metz Pumpkinfest, and how it has grown since the first event 17 years ago. The application requests \$750.00 from the Cultural Events and Sponsorship Funding program to assist with the costs associated with hosting a growing event, such as the rental of portable toilets, additional face painters, increased horse drawn wagon rides (longer time commitment), etc. The organizing committee, which consists of 30 volunteers, would like to continue offering this event free of charge to the community.

Recommendation:

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable approve the Cultural Events and Sponsorship Funding request in the amount of \$750.00 to Metz Pumpkinfest.

Moved: Member Renken
Seconded: Member Craig

CARRIED

Member McDougall abstained from voting on this recommendation, and did not participate in the discussion, as she disclosed a pecuniary interest in this item earlier in the meeting.

Workplan Item 3: Cultural Moments

Staff provided an overview of the Cultural Moments presented to Council since the last Cultural Roundtable meeting, noting they are well received by Council, as well as on social media. The three Cultural Moment videos for 2025 average 629 views:

- January 13 – Dr. Helen Reynolds
- January 27 – H. Gordon Green
- February 10 – “Saucy” Sylvia Cadesky

Committee directed staff to use another previously enjoyed Cultural Moment for the March 10, 2025 meeting of Council.

Member Craig offered to produce two new Cultural Moments – one on Mennonite Culture in Wellington North, and one on the Seniors Centre for Excellence. These will be used for the March 24 and April 7 Council meetings.

Workplan Item 5: Wellington North Culture Days

- No updates

Workplan Item 6: Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundtable partnership

Tourism Growth Program

- Driftscape

Implementation will begin in the first half of 2025, after staff have been trained on how to upload materials onto the application.

- May 30 Symposium

See the events section for more details

Other Items

- Strathcona Long Term Care and local art exhibit

Member Vair spoke with Cheryl McTavish about the possibility of having local art displayed in their facility on a rotating basis. Cheryl advised artwork from the Group of 7 is on every floor and all they could offer at this time would be a one-day art exhibit on May 23rd, 10am – 3pm. The exhibit would feature art but not sell the art. The committee agreed the art should depict happy scenes and landscapes.

Member Vair will continue to research and look for other possibilities, including Birmingham Lodge, the Meeting Room at the Mount Forest and District Sports Complex, Wellington County libraries, store windows such as Second Look in Arthur and maybe even local funeral homes.

Member Vair was asked if she could teach an art class for the residents at Strathcona based on a beach theme. Member Vair has graciously offered her services free of charge for a class on March 14th.

- Four Corners Quilters' Guild, Cultural Roundtable's sponsorship of the Alzheimer's quilts

Member Hruska informed the committee that a media release was circulated, recognizing the financial support of the Cultural Roundtable Committee in the amount of \$200.00 through the Cultural Events and Sponsorship Funding program in 2024.

Member Hruska also shared the great connections that are continuing to be made between the Lions Club, Four Corners Quilters' Guild and Alzheimer's society.

Member Vair will talk to Mount Forest Lions Club president Crystal Steffler to see if there's room or a place within the Lions Club for local artwork in an effort to seek display opportunities.

Items for Consideration

Wellington Advertiser Cultural Ads

The committee reviewed the January 2025 Cultural advertisement in the Wellington Advertiser.

Upcoming Events

International Women's Day

March 5, 2025, The Neustadt Community Hall

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Advancement of Women (AWE) initiatives

Webinars start March 12, 2025. 15 women have applied, currently 9 approved.

Cultural Roundtable Symposium

Hosted by: Town of Minto

Staff reported that the Cultural Roundtable Symposium will take place on Friday, May 30th in Harriston. The keynote speaker is Cate Proctor.

Roundtable (verbal)

Member Reid – nothing to add

Member McDougall – nothing to add

Councilor Renken – nothing to add

Member Hruska – Expanding on the art idea for seniors in local long-term care homes, suggested binders of the Cultural Moments be created and distributed for local seniors to enjoy. Do a pilot and see what kind of uptake. Great fit and good idea. Do in large print, maybe 16 point font. CDC Wilson will put this together using the past two years' Cultural Moments. Also to send to both historical societies and Wellington North medical centers.

Member Craig – to call EDO Mulder about having her church on Cultural page in March.

Member Vair – nothing to add

EDO Mulder – nothing to add

CDC Wilson – nothing to add

Date of next meeting and adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 20, 2025 (virtual)

Moved by Member Hruska
Seconded by Member Craig

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting of February 20, 2025, be adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

CARRIED