

AGM Minutes

Date 08/06/2023

Guest Speaker: Mayor Don McIssac

Agenda item	Details	Action/Discussion
President's Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory remarks at 7:05 p.m. • Introductory remarks by Mayor McIsaac, discussion art and Orillia and the partnerships with the arts community, Provincial Government, the City and OMAH. • He extended congratulations to Ninette Gyorody for her 10 years as ED of OMAH.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved that the Agenda as proposed be adopted, with one small change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Janet Houston/Ted Duncan • Carried.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Minutes of the OMAH Annual General Meeting of June 16, 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved that the Minutes be approved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Doug Frost/Trish Crowe-Grande • Carried.
President's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Davids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>See Appendix A for Stephen's report.</i>
Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doug Frost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The financial statements have been posted on the OMAH website. • Discussion of this information. • Balance sheet/Statement of financial position. We have three different funds and these were discussed. • Discussion of things related. • We have about \$120,000 of investments in the Endowment und. Some of this is used for scholarships. The fund dropped in value last year

		<p>because of the financial conditions in general.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of our Endowment funds are held by third parties. They hold the capital and we get the interest. There are historic reasons for this. • We want to promote our Sustaining Fund to support our long-term goals. • Statement of Operations: Split into statements for the three different funds. • Revenues are up by a third in terms of donations. Our membership continues to grow. • Fundraising: Last year’s Winter Gala was very successful. Grants are important for our revenue. There are both government and other grants. • During Covid, governments provided substantial emergency funding (both federal and provincial). However, as we return to normal, we will not have these grants, and have to potential to run deficits. As a result, we are in the process of hiring a development officer to research grants and other funding sources. There is a Trillium Foundation grant for hiring a development officer for two years.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to receive the financial statements for the year ended Dec. 31, 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Janet Houston/Mary Garten • Carried.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to re-appoint Hehn-Trickey Professional Corporation as the auditor for the December 31, 2023 financial period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Irene Peters/Will McGarvey • Carried.
Governance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Philip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the 2023-2024 OMAH Board of Directors Nominees • Abby Sirisegaram-Cole: (three-year term) • Jessica Allen (three-year term)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don introduced each and gave a very brief biographical sketch (attached below).
Election of the 2023-2024 OMAH Board of Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Davids • Moved to elect Abby Sirisigaram-Cole • Moved to elect Jessica Allen • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Ted/Janet • Carried. • M/S: Janet/Trish • Carried. • Abby spoke briefly about herself and why she has applied for the position.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to re-elect Steph Dunn (three-year term) and Scott Allington (three-year term) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Mary Gartlan/Lucia Garvey • Carried. • Scott spoke briefly about his current Museum work. • Steph also spoke briefly and is looking forward to creating a conduit between a local high school and OMAH.
Acknowledgement of the outgoing Board of Directors members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ted Duncan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General remarks about the Board, the Staff and the difficulties during Covid. • General remarks about Janet and Don. • Janet Houston spoke about how much she loves OMAH: She also likes our current Strategic Plan. Don Philip: Declined to speak so as not to drag things out.
Executive Director's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninette Gyorody 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>For Ninette's report, see Appendix B.</i>
Acknowledgement of the Executive Director's 10 years of service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Davids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much of this was covered by the Mayor in his remarks. • Stephen discussed this further. • The Board very much appreciates Ninette's work.
New business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Motion to Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved that the OMAH 2023 Annual General Meeting be adjourned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/S: Ted/Scott

Appendix A: President's Report

It has been an honour and a delight to serve as President of the Board of Directors of the Orillia Museum of Art and History (OMAH) this past year.

Some of you have asked me what is it like to be President of OMAH?

As President, I hold responsibility for chairing our Board meetings, and I also participate actively in the various OMAH Committees whenever necessary or possible.

It has been easy to maintain a friendly and positive working relationship with Ninette, our Executive Director. We are frequently in contact and I have a lot of confidence in her abilities. I have learned where and when I can add value.

I also work closely with our other directors and volunteers, especially the Executive Committee. I represent OMAH in the community, as necessary.

For example: I sit on external committees such as Orillia's Art in Public Places Committee and the City's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Roundtable, where I am part of the Leadership Team.

I attend Truth and Reconciliation Circles, and occasionally interface with the City of Orillia and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation – when doing so is helpful to Ninette.

Both those civic relationships are in good shape. We are grateful to Orillia for an annual financial support grant of \$150,000 and for a City representative on our Board.

Our relationship with the Chippewas of Rama First Nation is growing stronger, and I am thrilled to report that we have just signed a Memorandum of Understanding with them to jointly document the important history and meaning of the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs (or Fish Fences) at the Atherley Narrows, *in a good way*.

This project will be an important collaboration and a contribution to advancing local truth and reconciliation.

Most of the rest of what has been happening this year you will hear from others this evening. Together we have achieved some amazing results and continue to make progress.

I thank every member, director, staff member, volunteer, donor, sponsor, visitor and partner for your important contributions to the success of OMAH. You help us to be a cultural jewel in the Orillia and Lake Country area and an anchor of the Peter Street Arts District.

With your assistance, we will continue to provide inclusive space to engage the community, inspire creativity, and celebrate culture, by exploring art and history.

Thank you.

Appendix B follows on the next page.

Appendix B: Executive Director's Report

1. Look back at 2022, created by our part-time Museum Assistant, Mikenna Richardson. highlights video
Coming up to one year with us, keep us young developing youth programs and increasing the museum's presence on TikTok, as well as taking on much of the graphic design work that our good friend Philip Jackman used to look after

2. 2022 key stats

a. Artefacts (an increase of 2,000 items since 2021)

- we do look at what we can deaccession

b. # of exhibitions (11 in 2021, increase) - we were closed

c. Virtual and in-person attendees (466 in person and 1115 virtual, that's an almost 300%)

Speaking to my colleagues in the museum and gallery sector - kids in-person are booming, in fact, our 9 weeks of summer camp sold out in March, before we had the chance to advertise Adult programs are running, and our top tier program for in-person is our midday make, our final one for this quarter ran yesterday at Scout Valley with Bob Bowles. HSS continues to be off the chart with its virtual speaker series. I can't say enough how unbelievably grateful we are that the hIstory committee works so diligently to put together a well rounded series of presentations that see its audience continue to grow.

3. 2022 donors, members, corporate sponsors, corporate members

Ensuring our museum operations are sustainable is in major part due to our supporters, such as individual donors, members of all levels, visitors, program participants, and sponsors. Your belief in OMAH ensures that we remain vital in our community. We will continue to strive through our programming to share how we live and to help us understand who we are and where we are going.

4. 2022 key funding

a. City of Orillia commitment - thank you

b. Heritage Canada emergency funding - help us

- stay afloat with over \$100,000 over two years
- c. Province of Ontario - digital dollars, emergency funding
- d. Ontario Trillium Foundation - for operations and infrastructure
- e. CFOA - accessibility and sensory upgrades for our studio

5. Strategic plan – developed in 2022 and our guide for the next 3 years

For the next 3 years our strategic goals are:

Design, develop and deliver in-person, virtual, and hybrid (arts and history) programs that engage with a diverse demographic by making connections with the community.

Design, develop, and deliver programs that exemplify diversity, inclusivity and equity.

Further develop a strong staff team working in partnership with OMAH volunteers to achieve our annual operating goals/targets.

Promote best governance practices through regular policy updates, vibrant board and committee structures and regular stakeholder feedback.

6. Operating Plan 2023 highlights (which is developed annually and reflects on our strategic plan)

Design, develop, and deliver accessible arts, culture, heritage tours - this we have been able to accomplish with funding from the MSAA

Invite youth to design and develop youth-focused Programming

Identify and seek objects for a contemporary history sub-set of OMAH's permanent collection

Retain contract staff from underrepresented groups
Create a marketing plan that is adjusted and tuned to include those media that reach a fuller, more inclusive demographic in our served community

7. Stats highlights from Q1 (January - March, 2023)
1515 visitors (target 1300)

1098 volunteer hours - to take the opportunity to express gratitude to all of our volunteers. Research volunteers dive deep into OMAH's collection to uncover Orillia's history, studio assistants aid instructors and students in the studio and gallery greeters welcome guests to the museum with friendly faces. These are just a few of the positions that volunteers help out with everyday.

- Over 10,000 visitors to our website
- 121 new memberships
- 870 total memberships
- 8. exhibitions/programs

We started the year with the OMAH Winter Gala....Dr. Rita Shelton Deverell, Lakehead University's 10th chancellor. Dr. Deverell's talk, entitled Honouring Thy Neighbour's Histories, will be engaging and thought-provoking. Planning is underway for next year's January dinner event. Some highlights of what is coming up later this year and also under development:

MAT exhibition - honouring 50 years of local theatre
Museum in a box - new program to be added to the schools menu

Museum in a Box is a lesson package intended to help educators provide a robust, hands-on learning experience for students. The box includes a set of artefacts which students will use to study, research, write about, and display in their very own classroom museum. The program is cross-curricular, incorporating literacy, history, public speaking and art.

Robyn Rennie (early 2024)

"Seeing Beyond" will be a show about experiencing visual art from the point of view of low vision. At least 12 highly-textural acrylic paintings ranging in size from 12 x 12 to 36 x 36 will invite touch. With the intent of inclusivity, Braille titles and information will accompany the work and audio descriptions of each piece can be accessed by smart phone.

MUSM (early 2024) - partnering with Georgian College to support students in developing an exhibition

Museum Madness family day - over 50 in attendance,

activities throughout the museum, great introduction to how active and alive our museum is

9. Partnerships - some highlights

Township of Oro-Medonte (new) - administrative and creative support for the Art_Trees of Oro Medonte - partnering artists with local businesses and animating the main intersection of Craighurst

History of Orillia: Indigenous Roots

We were approached by the Indigenous education department at SCDSB requesting a program surrounding Indigenous history. In this program for Grade 7/8s we start at Couchiching Beach Park (where the Indigenous ed. department will meet the group to open the day with a song/smudge) before we walk up Coldwater Road, discussing the Indigenous history of the area on the land where that history took place. We stop in at the CTA Art Exhibit at St. Paul's where one of the curators will speak to the students about the project, and then we head back to OMAH for a discussion of representations of history.

Parklane Landscapes partnership (ongoing)

In 2021-2022, in an effort to promote an ecological corridor along the Lake Simcoe shoreline, Orillia Museum of Art & History and Parklane Landscapes partnered to provide a shoreline naturalization awareness campaign to home owners along the shorelines of Lake Simcoe and its tributaries. This project got extended in July 2022 to raise awareness of actions that youth can take to naturalize the shoreline and reduce the impact of storm water runoff to Lake Simcoe receiving waters.

From Eco-Art family programs to weeklong camps, the program has expanded into: As this project was such a success, the ministry agreed to extend the project for OMAH and Parklane Landscapes to partner again to extend the existing contract to develop a curriculum promoting the value of youth environmental stewardship in the Lake Simcoe watershed by raising awareness of actions that youth can take to naturalize shorelines and reduce the impact on storm water runoff to Lake Simcoe receiving waters. In Fall 2022, the project evolved to partner with Regent Park Public School in Orillia to provide 4 youth workshops.

Running again this fall.

Also, as part of the larger project, Parklane Landscapes is providing each of you with a native pollinator plant. Anna Van Maris, past president is here to answer any questions you may have.

APPC (ongoing)

Funding from Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario which led to 2 major projects - one of them being a public art strategy for the city of Orillia and the other entitled, Crossroads, Connections, and Intersections: an installation of nine works of art across seven sites.

The theme "Crossroads, connections and intersections" draws on the City's strategic location along the shores of Lakes Couchiching and Simcoe, at the heart of the four communities of Oro-Medonte, Ramara, Severn and Rama First Nation, connected via the Trent-Severn Waterway, Highways 11 and 12, and the Trans-Canada Trail to anywhere you want to go in Canada and beyond. These crossroads, connections, and intersections breathe life into the Orillia area and bring together visitors and residents and are the very reason Orillia has been a gathering place for Indigenous peoples for more than 5000 years.

10. Funding support this year - OTF, City ongoing, summer - YCW and CSJ

11. Conclusion

I have had the privilege to lead this organization for ten years. The journey has been exciting and challenging, leading me through a process of learning, as well as unlearning. I am fortunate to have had a supportive board of directors encouraging my vision for this museum. I am fortunate to work with volunteers and staff who have innumerable talents, skills, and experiences and are willing to share them not only with me, but with all of you. Most importantly, I have learned to become an empathetic leader by listening to all.

I will continue to develop that skill as I look ahead to the possibilities of the next 10 years and how OMAH can ensure the community's stories, all of them, are shared. Together, as arts, culture, and heritage enthusiasts,

practitioners, and participants, we demonstrate to our community that indeed, the arts, culture, and heritage matter. We need to work together and support each other, to become better together, through active listening, friendship, and collaboration.
Thank you.

Ninette's report included an infographic, which follows on the next page.

OMAH 2022

BY THE NUMBERS

144 children participated
in summer camps

1,532 children attended
education programs

21,507
ARTEFACTS



151 community
programs held

2,286 in-person
attendees

2,100 virtual
attendees



21,900
Instagram reach



1,760
Twitter followers



10,290
Youtube views



1,056
Tiktok followers



181,799
Facebook reach

\$201,865
in Donations



499
members

271
new members

16
Exhibitions
in 4 Galleries