THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING AGENDA THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025 @ 12:00 PM

UPPER HALL, ARTHUR AND AREA COMMUNITY CENTRE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89750658563

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 May 15, 2025, meeting as presented.		Chair	Resolution		
	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest					
			Chair			
	Minutes of Previous Meeting – March 20, 2025					
	Recommendation:					
	THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee receives for information the minutes of the March 20, 2025, Committee Meeting.	001	Chair	Resolution		
	Deputation					
	None		Chair			
	Introduction of Staff					
	Casey Taylor – Project Lead – Farmers' Market & Community Gardens		EDO			
12:30pm	Business Arising					
	None		Chair			
12:50pm	Update on Workplan Items					
	 Workplan Item 1: Wellington North Farmers' Market Casey Taylor, Farmers' Market Manager Rain day contingency 	005	EDO			
	Workplan Item 2: Cultural Grants and Donations No update		CDC			
	 Workplan Item 3: Cultural Moments March 24 – Seniors Centre for Excellence April 7 – History of Newspapers in Mount Forest April 22 – Dinah Christie May 5 – History of Newspapers in Arthur Upcoming Moments: May 20 - Tree Trust Legacy 	006 007 009 011	CDC			

	Workplan Item 5: Wellington North Culture Days No updates			
	Workplan Item 6: Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundtable partnership Tourism Growth Program Driftscape – Verbal Update Cultural Roundtable Symposium – no update		EDO	
1:30pm	Other Items			
	Strathcona Long Term Care and local art exhibit • Verbal update		Member Vair	
1:40pm	Items for Consideration			
	Wellington Advertiser Cultural Ads	013 014 015	EDO	
1:45pm	Upcoming Events			
	Cultural Roundtable Symposium May 30, 2025 Hosted by: Town of Minto (Harriston) No updates		EDO	
1:45pm	Roundtable			
·	(verbal) Mike Volunteer Celebration and Newcomer Welcome Event May 1, 2025 Arthur Arena Lower Hall Robyn Advancement of Women (AWE) initiatives May 9, 2025 Wrap up luncheon, Best Western, Walkerton		All	
	Date of next meeting and adjournment			
	June 19, 2025 (Mount Forest and District Sports Complex – Meeting Room) Recommendation: THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting of May 15, 2025, be adjourned at p.m.		Chair	Resolution



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

Committee Members Present:

- Doris Cassan, Acting Chair
- Linda Hruska, Member
- Trina Reid, Member
- Penny Renken, Member, Councillor
- Tim McIntosh, Member (joined at 12:13 p.m.)

Regrets:

- Bonny McDougall, Member
- Carol Vair, Member
- Faye Craig, Member

Staff Members Present:

- Robyn Mulder, Economic Development Officer
- Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator

Calling to Order

Chair Cassan called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Member McIntosh Seconded by Member Hruska

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable add "Meeting Frequency and Timing" to the March 20, 2025 meeting agenda under "Other Items";

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

CARRIED

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 20, 2025

(approved by Council on March 10, 2025)

Moved by Member McIntosh Seconded by Member Hruska

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee receive for information the minutes of the February 20, 2025, Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

Deputation

None

Business Arising

None

Update on Workplan Items

Workplan Item 1: Wellington North Farmers' Market

- Applications are open and starting to come in
- Looking for vendors, predominately farmers and producers

Workplan Item 2: Cultural Grants and Donations

No Updates

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 673 views:

- February 24 J.J. Morrison
- March 10 J.P. Bickell
- Upcoming Moments
- Mach 24 Seniors' Centre for Excellence
- April 14 Mennonite Culture

The committee discussed other possibilities for future moments including the Arthur Creamery, Arthur Enterprise News, Mount Forest Confederate, The Wellington Advertiser, Exotic Animals of Wellington North, Epoch's Garage and the former Kenilworth Post Office.

Staff will look into reading moments on air at 88.7 The River and also printing copies for seniors.

Workplan Item 5: Wellington North Culture Days

No updates

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

Tourism Growth Program

Driftscape

No updates

May 30 Symposium

The invitation will be finalized shortly and sent to Committee Members.

Other Items

Strathcona Long Term Care and local art exhibit

No update.

Meeting Frequency and Timing of Committee Meetings

The committee discussed whether the frequency of the meetings could possibly be extended to every two months, with the next meeting being May 15, 2025. The committee decided to keep the time of day of the meetings the same for now and continue to offer hybrid attendance options for anyone that is unable to attend in person.

Moved by Member McIntosh Seconded by Councilor Renken

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable meets every two month, beginning May 15, 2025:

AND THAT the time of the meetings will continue to be 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Items for Consideration

Wellington Advertiser Cultural Ads

The committee reviewed the February 2025 cultural advertisement page 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.

Volunteer Celebration and Newcomer Welcome Event

May 1, 2025

Arthur Arena Lower Hall

Cultural Roundtable Symposium May 30, 2025 Hosted by the Town of Minto

No updates

Roundtable (verbal)

Councilor Renken – Will contact staff to organize a meeting with Kate Rowley from the Mount Forest Museum and Archives.

Member Hruska – nothing to add.

Member McIntosh – Noted that he has a mutual friend who knows members of the Rae family, and asked if staff would like to connect with them about the future Rae Luckock plaque being installed in Arthur. Staff suggested Member McIntosh connect with Clerk Karren Wallace. Member Reid – May 4, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Kenilworth Country Pantry Open House – John Rae's cookbook will be available for purchase as well. May 31, Chili Dinner fundraiser at the Mount Forest Legion.

Chair Cassan – nothing to add

Date of next meeting and adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2025 (Arthur and Area Community Centre, Upper Hall)

Moved by Member McIntosh Seconded by Member Hruska

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting of March 20, 2025, be adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

CARRIED



Every Saturday 8:30 AM to Noon

2025 Season Runs: June 14 - September 27



Contact Robyn Mulder rmulder@wellington-north.com









393 Parkside Drive, Mount Forest





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@wn farmersmarket

Buying local makes sense for so many reasons!

Quality And Taste Why eat food that's travelled for days on a truck? Enjoy fully ripened fresh food bursting with flavour. Enjoy it the same day it was picked.

Support Local When you buy from local farmers and producers, you are supporting local businesses and providing income for families in our community.

Safety Assurance How much do you know about your food? Wellington North farmers and producers take great pride in high quality food that's safe for you and your family. One of the biggest benefits to buying food locally is having someone to answer your questions about how it was grown and raised.

Help The Environment By reducing the distance food travels and unnecessary food packaging, we can reduce our carbon footprint.

Experience Agriculture Up Close Hear the story of where your food came from, ask questions and experience the countryside and the simple pleasures it has to offer.













CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MARCH 24, 2025 CELBRATES THE SENIORS' CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

Hip, Hip, Hooray for the Seniors' Centre for Excellence!

SENIORS' CENTRE for EXCELLENCE

Quality of life for seniors is elevated because of the superior efforts, leadership, and coordination of Helen Edwards in her position as Program Coordinator. Helen has held this position since the inception of this program in 2008. Administrative Assistant Johanna Brown and A.C.E. (Active, Connected & Engaged) Coordinator Glynis Belec enhance the services available to seniors in North Wellington. These ladies are passionate about what they do, and believe that while aging has its challenges, like every chapter of life, it is a time where people see more clearly what is truly valuable in life.

The multi-functional brick and mortar S.C.E. office, is conveniently located on the lower level of the Mapleton Health Centre, 11 Andrews Drive West in Drayton. Inside are the most caring and innovative people, providing support for those who choose to improve their health, seek encouragement, and overall awareness for a healthier lifestyle.

Guided by their Seniors' Advisory Group, whose membership is comprised of both local senior leaders, and health care professionals, namely Deborah Whale, Mary Faye Burns, Anne Marie Faulkner, Faye Craig, Shirley Borges and Cathy Harrington, the S.C.E. appreciates how this group of concerned senior advocates ensures strategic goals are met.

The S.C.E. offers many programs, both in-person and virtual, including monthly dining events, workshops, exercise opportunities, intergenerational programs, and other special events. The S.C.E. also appreciate its role of promoting many opportunities for other health and social programming that nurture both the body and the soul. The S.C.E. does this through their monthly newsletter—the Heart and Soul of Wellington, their Heart and Soul Activity booklet, and through their popular Facebook page.

The S.C.E. has successfully applied for grants, bringing funds for seniors' programming to the area. The latest example is the Aging Well calendar, with 10,000 copies distributed across Wellington County. The theme of the calendar challenges long held, agist beliefs about the aging process, and the format allows the person to track their health, with reminders of holidays, traditions, and a way to embrace each month. Another example is the Wisdom Workshop series, which has brought seniors together to learn about topics of their choosing across North Wellington.

- Celebrate aging, by acknowledging the challenges but singing the positives.
- Celebrate the seniors in your life, they make your community the wonderful place that it is.
- Seniors—take part in programs, grow wiser, and become more involved.

Being active, connected, and engaged in your community are keys to healthy aging.



CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 7, 2025 CELBRATES THE HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS IN MOUNT FOREST

In 1860, it was easy to read all the newspapers published in Wellington County. However, none were published in the north. As with most things at that time, the north was dependent on the outside for its news, but this did not remain the case for long.

Tom Greenham, publisher of the *British Constitution* in Fergus, started his second paper in Mount Forest and named it *The Express*, probably late in 1860 or early 1861. This venture did not last long, undoubtedly a victim of poor advertising revenues.

Its place was soon occupied by the *Mount Forest Examiner*, which appeared in April 1862. The publisher was Tom Graffe, a one-time teacher who had fallen victim to the "grass is greener" syndrome and entered journalism.



Another paper hit the Mount Forest streets in April 1867. This was *The Confederate*, published by the father-and-son team of Henry and Harry Stovel. A modest paper (two pages), it at first appeared only biweekly. By the second year, though, the *Confederate* had established itself as a solid paper, a standard four-page weekly with ample advertising.

In the meantime, Graffe sold the *Examiner*. New owners carried on through the 1870s, but in 1880 the Stovels bought it out. The *Confederate* had by this time become the dominant paper in Mount Forest, and indeed in north Wellington.

The Stovels enjoyed a monopoly only briefly. Later in 1880, E.G. Hart started a new paper, the *Mount Forest Advocate*. Four years later the Stovels sold the *Confederate* to Henry Benner. Apparently they had some difference with the new owner: within weeks of the sale they started a new paper, the *Mount Forest Index*. Then, in 1885, Jim Lambert established yet another paper, *The Representative*.

For the next year Mount Forest enjoyed the luxury of four papers, but there was not enough advertising for any of them to prosper. The Stovels bailed out first, closing down the *Index* in 1886.

The Advocate lasted until 1890. Many towns the size of Mount Forest boasted two papers in this era. The Confederate and the Representative co-existed for almost 30 years, until 1918, when rising costs claimed the Representative. It was purchased by A.W. Wright, who had taken over the Confederate in 1902.

The Confederate would remain the lone weekly Mount Forest focused newspaper of record until April 2016 when Chris Holden launched the Mount Forest Mirror. For the next 18 months, the Confederate and Mirror were both published weekly, sometimes with nearly identical front pages as the editors of both



publications shared similar beliefs on community news. *The Mirror* published its last issue in October 2017.

In the summer of 2019, Metroland Media sold the *Confederate* and other local papers to Midwestern Newspapers Corp. *The Confederate* was replaced by the *Independent Plus* without advance notice in September 2019, ending its 152-year history without any fanfare or celebration. In January 2020, the Wellington Advertiser purchased a 50% stake in Midwestern Newspapers and replaced the *Independent Plus* with the *North Wellington Community News*, a regional paper which serves Mapleton, Minto and Wellington North.

Despite its long history of vibrant local journalism, Mount Forest no longer has a weekly newspaper to call its own. The town's rich tradition of community news, which began with the *Express* and ended with the *Confederate*, has come to an end. Today, residents rely on regional publications and digital media for their news, marking the end of an era for Mount Forest's once-thriving newspaper scene.

Submitted by the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 22, 2025 CELBRATES DINAH CHRISTIE

Singer-comedienne Dinah (Barbara) Christie was born in London, England on December 29, 1942. The daughter of British-Canadian actors Robert and Margot Christie, she came to Canada at the age of 2.

She began her career at 17, singing to her own guitar accompaniment in Toronto folk clubs and night spots and then continued with live musical revues with her long-time creative partner Tom Kneebone.

In 1971, she bought her beloved Black Shadow Creek farm outside of Mount



Forest after falling in love with the rural area while driving back and forth to Stratford with her father, who worked there for many seasons.

That same year she met her husband and life partner, Robert Warren - photographer, yacht builder and well, he could do anything and that was perfect for the old farmhouse that was built in the latter part of the 1800s. They lived at the farm together until Robert's passing in 2014.

Dinah came to national attention as a singing host in 1965-1966 for CBC TV's controversial public-affairs program "This Hour Has Seven Days." Further nightclub and stage engagements followed.

Dinah was a regular performer as one of the Home Team on CHCH TV's "Party Game" from 1970-1980 with Billy Van and Jack Duffy, and on CTV's "Check It Out" from 1985-1988. She loved performing with the likes of Bob Hope.

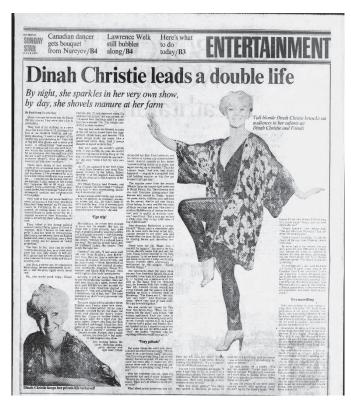
Dinah loved her career on TV, in film and on stage, but she adored giving her time to local fundraisers and community organizations.

Dinah also employed local seamstresses in the community to help launch her company The Badd Sisters, formed with her younger sister Cedar Christie, in the 1990s which created sustainable products and accessories. Dinah performed, wrote and directed for the rest of her life on the farm.

She also became a Reiki Master and often travelled to the folks around her who needed healing.

Dinah was diagnosed with Dementia a few years ago and was able to stay at her precious Black Shadow Creek with the support of family and friends. Finally, she had to say goodbye to the farm and the country living that she cherished. She adored her hometown of Mount Forest and the people too.

Dinah is now living in a long-term care home in Toronto and is surrounded by love. Her official Facebook page (Facebook.com/DinahChristie) is



updated often with news and fun info, and much of her work can be found on <u>YouTube</u> to be enjoyed by all.

Submitted by the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 5, 2025 CELBRATES THE HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS IN ARTHUR

The original area newspaper, known as the *Arthur Enterprise*, was founded in 1862. It was founded by Mr. Luke, who would sell the paper to Mr. W.F. Johnson, who operated the paper for several years before selling to Dr. Decoursie.

E.J. O'Callaghan was next, operating the Enterprise News for nearly a decade. At that time, the business operated on the property now occupied by the Royal Bank.

O'Callaghan sold the Enterprise to Harry E. Dewar, who was publishing in 1889.

In 1894 M.C. O'Donnell purchased the Enterprise. He held the position for several years. In a 1915 interview he lamented that he enjoyed the business, but that it had one major drawback. "It was not a money making proposition." It was O'Donnell that moved the Enterprise to 222 George St. It operated from that location for about 100 years.



Front page of the January 30, 1896 issue of the Arthur Enterprise

Arthur businessman David Brocklebank established a rival paper, the *Wellington News*, in 1895. Short on both subscribers and advertising, he sold out to the *Enterprise* a year or so later.

The *Enterprise News* would see ownership change hands in 1902 when Rev. R. Thryne purchased the paper. Two years later, H.E. Bywater would purchase the paper. In 1906, S.T. Haggard was listed as publisher, but by 1908 Bywater had returned.

In 1908, Rixon Rafter purchased the amalgamated *Enterprise News*. Rafter possessed a keen interest in deciphering and reporting the news of the times. His visual impairment – he lost his eyesight as a boy – did not interfere with his respected position in the community and his dedication to providing newsworthy stories. He piloted the

paper for the next 45 years. In 2020, he was inducted into the Ontario Community Newspapers Association's Hall of Fame.

In 1953, Rafter sold the *Enterprise News* to Clive Williams Sr. Williams had been the superintendent of a daily newspaper in Cornwall, so he brought with him a wealth of experience in the business.

The *Arthur Enterprise News* soon became a family affair. There were many jobs to be done, from searching out the news to folding and addressing the newspapers for circulation.

Clive Williams' son, Clive B. Williams, became an integral part of the news team over the years and in 1979, he bought out the business from his father.

Clive B. Williams continued to produce a quality weekly newspaper, once recognized as the best small newspaper in Canada. Clive B. Williams also served many years as a member of Arthur village council, as a councillor, deputy-reeve and reeve.

Effective June 6, 2000, the *Arthur Enterprise News* and its sister newspaper the *Harriston Review* were purchased by Metroland Media.

The *Enterprise News* joined the Eedy Division of Metroland, which at that time owned and operated several community newspapers in southwestern Ontario, including the *Mount Forest Confederate*.

In the summer of 2019, Metroland Media sold the *Arthur Enterprise News* and other local papers to a new company called Midwestern Newspapers Corp. The final issue of the *Enterprise News* was replaced by the *Independent Plus* without advance notice in September 2019, ending its 157-year history without any fanfare or celebration. In January 2020, the *Wellington Advertiser* purchased a 50% stake in Midwestern Newspapers



and replaced the *Independent Plus* with the *North Wellington Community News*, a regional paper which serves Mapleton, Minto and Wellington North.

Submitted by the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable, with gratitude to Jeff McKee of the Arthur Historical Society for his contributions.

EDITION(s): March 27 By: Alicia Roza

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Our Northern Wellington partnership is working together to preserve, promote and develop our unique cultural resources to support a vibrant inclusive community and a prosperous economy.



















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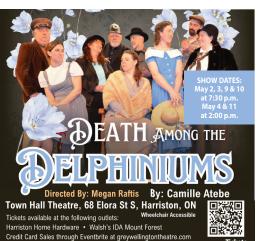


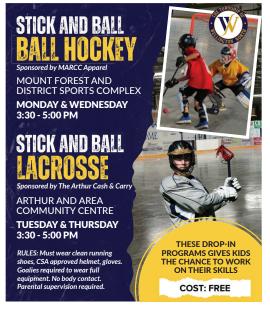






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Town of Minto

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could make the best use of this facility in the future.

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