



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14 @ 12:00 PM
VIRTUAL**

Committee Members Present:

- Doris Cassan, Member, Acting Chair
- Penny Renken, Member, Councillor (arrived 12:25pm)
- Trina Reid, Member
- Linda Hruska, Member
- Tim McIntosh, Member
- Carol Vair, Member

Regrets:

- Bonny McDougall, Chair
- Faye Craig, Member

Staff Members Present:

- Mandy Jones, Manager of Recreation, Community & Economic Development
- Robyn Mulder, Economic Development Officer
- Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator

Calling to Order
Acting Chair Cassan called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.
Adoption of Agenda
Moved by Member McIntosh Seconded by Member Reid THAT the agenda for the August 14, 2025, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting be accepted and passed as presented. CARRIED
Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
None
Minutes of Previous Meeting – July 10, 2025
The Committee reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting, held on July 10, 2025, and approved at the July 28, 2025, meeting of Wellington North Council.

Moved by Member McIntosh
Seconded by Member Hruska

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee receive for information the minutes of the July 10, 2025, Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

Deputation

None

Business Arising

Heritage District Discussion

Staff provided information regarding the Community Improvement Program and the accompanying façade guidelines document. From January to June 2025, staff collaborated with the original CIP Consultant, Pl.ural, to revise the façade guidelines to further emphasize the value of heritage buildings and historical components. This update was completed in consultation with the Mount Forest Museum and Archives to ensure the document met the desired outcomes and provided comprehensive guidance for CIP applicants. Member Renken suggested that the wording in the North Perth guidelines should be considered and possibly included moving forward.

Additionally, the discussion explored potential options to incentivize property owners and businesses to preserve the heritage aspects of their buildings. This could include, adding more funding for heritage buildings or heritage value attributes through the Community Improvement Program.

New Business

Staff advised the committee that the Terms of Reference for the Cultural Roundtable Committee were approved at the July 28 Council meeting.

Member Hruska officially offered her resignation which was accepted by the committee.

Update on Workplan Items

Workplan Item 1: Wellington North Farmers' Market

Member Reid, a vendor at the Farmers' Market, provided a very positive review of both the Market and its new location to the Committee. Reid also praised Market Lead, Casey Taylor, for doing an excellent job in marketing the Farmers' Market, creating engagement, and being highly involved with the vendors. Additionally, Reid noted that Casey has great events planned every week.

Member McIntosh shared that local influencer, Jessica Turnblom, visited the market and posted a fun and very positive reel of the Wellington North Farmers' Market and surrounding area attractions on her social media channels. The Committee thanked the County of

Wellington Economic Development Department and Casey Taylor for coordinating the influencer visit to Wellington North and the Farmers' Market.

Workplan Item 2: Cultural Grants and Donations

Staff reported that no applications have been received since the last meeting, and there has been no update from the organizers of the proposed Mount Forest Diwali event.

Workplan Item 3: Cultural Moments

No update.

Workplan Item 5: Wellington North Culture Days

Culture Days Brochure

Acting Chair Cassan noted that the Lynes Blacksmith Shop is not open as frequently throughout the year and suggested that it would be beneficial to have it open more often to showcase this valuable cultural asset. Staff shared that while the building is under renovations, it cannot be accessed. Committee requested that staff connect with the Mount Forest Museum and Archives to confirm plans for the Blacksmith Shop during Culture Days.

Recommendation:

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee approve the Culture Days Brochure as amended.

Moved by Member McIntosh

Seconded by Member Reid

CARRIED

Workplan Item 6: Minto, Hanover, WN Cultural Roundtable partnership - Tourism Growth Program

No update.

Items for Consideration

None.

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Celebration and Newcomer Welcome

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Mount Forest and District Sports Complex

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Register on Eventbrite:

<https://WNNewcomerEvent2025.eventbrite.com>

Artisan Showcase

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Mount Forest and District Sports Complex

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Member Vair shared that 22 artisans have been confirmed. The Farmers' Market will set up outside unless weather is uncooperative then the Lower Leisure Hall will be used. Member Renken and EDO Mulder will organize refreshments for the event.

Saugeen Culture Bus Tour

Saturday, October 4

Various locations throughout Wellington North, Minto and Hanover

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Register on Eventbrite:

<https://2025SaugeenCultureBus.eventbrite.com>

Roundtable (verbal)

None

Date of next meeting and adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2025, Arthur Arena

Moved by Member McIntosh

THAT the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting of August 14, 2025, be adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

CARRIED