



**FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUMS OF MISSISSAUGA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY MAY 12th, 2025, 7PM**

LOCATION: BENARES HISTORIC HOUSE - Visitor Centre

**DRAFT MINUTES
Meet and Greet 6:45 - 7:00 pm**

Call to Order: June Newhouse, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. June greeted everyone and called Sue Shanly to deliver the land acknowledgement. We had a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Wanda Hall, seconded by Liz Durdan: Carried

Approval of Minutes from AGM on May 13, 2024 - The minutes were accepted as they had been circulated last year and posted on the FOMM website. **Motion of Approval:** Moved by Rosemarie Bowman, seconded by Anne Fabierkiewicz. Carried

Chairperson's Report:

- Wanda Hall, Co-Chair, called Liz Durdan to share wonderful memories about the late John Pegram.
- Wanda thanked Liz for taking over 'On the Verandah' (OTV) and shared a review of OTV 2024. FoMM provided 36 buses last year from OTV fund raising. Concerts start June 6th 2025.
- Wanda thanked Ashgrove for printing the brochures
- She recapped our traditional photos with Santa 2024 and advised that we have set the dates for next year. Bookings will be done through Eventbrite again this year.
- Three E-news were sent out last year. Wanda thanked Tanya for all her work on the E-News and to everyone who contributed. Wanda welcomed input from anyone who wants to contribute.

- Wanda recapped the events that FoMM participated in. She indicated that at Halloween Harvest, thanks to the Mississauga Foundation grant, we were able to help bring Augmented Reality to the event.
- Wanda indicated we also received a grant from the Mississauga Foundation for this year for the exhibit A History Exposed: The History of Blacks in Canada.
- June acknowledged the sponsors from last year but indicated we need more sponsors as busing is getting more expensive. June indicated we need more sponsorship for photos with Santa. She asked that if anyone knows anyone who would be a sponsor to please reach out to June.

Financial Report – Don Harrington

- Don shared the financials from 2024.
- We raised \$12,000 in grants and sponsorships.
- Friends events raised just over \$6000 mostly due to OTV
- Expenses were a little less due to fewer purchases.
- biggest expense was bussing around \$7000
- Don reported that our net assets have increased over 2023.
- Don shared that copies of the financials are available for anyone who would like one. To obtain a copy, provide your email address to Don Harrington or to any of the other directors and we will send a PDF copy. FoMM decided not to print copies of the financials as in past years they have just remained behind on the chairs.
- Jenny Dale thanked Don for doing our financials for so many years.

Approval of the 2024 Financial Report was completed at a previous Directors meeting.

Members Resolution – Rosemarie Bowman

Be it resolved that all contracts, acts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, and done and taken by the Board of Directors & Officers since the last Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga referred to on written resolution of the Board are hereby approved and confirmed.

Election of Directors - Joe Zammit

Joe Zammit, Past Chair, presented the slate of Directors for the 2025/2026 year.
There is one opening.

Christine Batiuk
Tanya Caruana
Joyce Delves
Anne Fabierkiewicz
Don Harrington
Sue Klein- Shanly
Joe Zammit
Sadaf Zuberi

Rosemarie Bowman
Gail Clark
Liz Durdan
Wanda Hall
Mary Jane Johnne
June Newhouse

Report from the Museums - John Dunlop and Elizabeth Underhill

- John Dunlop advised the museums had one of the best years ever. Attendance is up substantially since COVID.
- They opened more family friendly events and are launching museum memberships which will launch at Blooms and Berries.
- They are booked up to the end of the year with school trips.
- John mentioned that the ramp was replaced at the Anchorage and the air conditioner broke at Benares.
- Elizabeth shared a commercial about the museums of Mississauga that is airing on CBC Gem.
- Elizabeth thanked Friends for providing more sponsorship to help bus school children. She had to ask Friends for additional funds part way through the year to ensure that they didn't turn anyone away.
- They increased their educational program offering last year to 11 programs.
- Elizabeth shared that they had over 2000 visitors attend their guided tours across two locations (Benares and Bradley) and received valued donations.
- There were 10 exhibits across the museums in 2024 which saw over 9,000 visitors.
- With the support of Friends, the City of Mississauga held a 'History Hunt'. It was a great success.
- Elizabeth indicated that they have many off site exhibits like the History Hunt. With the off site exhibits they had 33 exhibits across 83 locations which saw 500,000 visitors.
- Elizabeth played a video on the aviation exhibit at the Malton airport.
- She shared the special events held in 2024 including 'Park your Pumpkin' and the Augmented Reality that Friends helped to bring to Halloween Harvest with

the grant from the Mississauga Foundation. In total they had 3 signature events and saw over 5,000 visitors.

- John recapped some work that will take place at the museums in 2025 including adding Wi-fi and security cameras in Benares, siding replacement at Bradley and more.
- Lastly, Elizabeth reviewed items that were added to their collection in 2024 in slides prepared by Stephanie Meeuwse.

New Business: June opened the floor to new business. Nothing was raised. She acknowledged that the next FoMM board meeting is Monday June 9th.

Closing Remarks: Wanda acknowledged that Friends turns 20 this year and played a power point with pictures of FoMM board members and activities over the past 20 years.

Wanda thanked everyone for attending for the AGM.

Adjournment

Wanda raised a motion to adjourn the FoMM AGM at 8:08pm. Moved by Sue Shanly seconded by Rosemarie Bowman. Approved by all.