

**Mississauga Heritage Foundation
Virtual Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 27, 2025
St. Peter's Anglican Church**



1. Call to Order by Chair

(Douglas Hancock –President)

Douglas Hancock welcomed everyone to the 65th Annual General Meeting of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation, with the number of members present and on zoom, quorum was met. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land on which we meet today is part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the importance of this land and pay our respects to the Anishinaabe and other First Nations, Métis and Inuit past, present and future.

2. Appointment of the Secretary

(Douglas Hancock -President)

Motion #1 *Moved by Jane Watt, and seconded by Michael Buchert, that the Minutes of the Meeting be taken by Melissa Toste. Carried*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held May 28, 2024.

(Douglas Hancock- President)

Motion #2 *Moved by Michael Buchert and seconded by Judy Selics, that the Minutes of the MHF Members Annual General Meeting held May 28, 2024, be approved. Carried*

4. Presidents Remarks

(Douglas Hancock- President)

Welcome to all those in-person and online. It is truly wonderful to re-connect with you, our members, our supporters, our community. We are pleased to be hosting this years Annual General Meeting at St. Peter's Anglican Church Erindale, who are celebrating their 200th anniversary in 2025.

Heritage Mississauga connects with its community in many ways – Constant Contact, Facebook, Twitter (my favourite), Instagram, YouTube and online gatherings. 2024 was an exceptional year for heritage celebration across the city as we honoured our city's 50th anniversary. We developed a travelling exhibition launched at the Canada Pavilion Carassauga which was showcased at several festivals throughout the year: Bread and Honey Festival, Polish Days Festival, Viva Goa Festival, Buskerfest and Italfest. We hosted a 50 for 50-week podcast on our channel Heritage Bytes and published 52 articles in Modern Mississauga celebrating 50 years of heritage. As part of the special celebrations, we held the 2024 Legend's Row induction ceremony at the Living Arts Centre welcoming two years of inductees: for 2023, Gayle Bothwick, Jason Spezza and Pat Bullard and for 2024, Amanda Cleghorn, John Roberts and Simu Liu. At *the Credits* we honoured 49 "Heritage Heroes" with over 450 members of the community.

Heritage Mississauga, thanks to its members, sponsors and the Community at large, has never been more fiscally sound. We have become the benchmark for which other organizations are measured by.

Our staff is second to none. Our thanks to Executive Director Jayme Gaspar, Historian Matthew Wilkinson, Culture Heritage|Creative Strategist Meghan Mackintosh, Collections and Resource Lead Justine Lyn and Social Media & Communications Coordinator Melissa Toste for their hard work and dedication to the organization. 2024 also brought a change to our staff lineup, we said goodbye to Justine Lyn and welcomed Madeleine Henry. Our Board is drawn from a wide cross-section of the business world and is dedicated to ensuring Heritage Mississauga fulfills its mandate.

The President then summarized the accomplishments over the last year, accompanied by a slide presentation. The following is a summary of his comments:

We continued our weekly programs including, LIVE (communicating events and programs across the city and GTA), Wayback Wednesday's article with partner Modern Mississauga Media, Ask A Historian and Saturday Matinee's. Through our Social Media Network with daily posts, we have celebrated, connected the community, captured moments in time, and connected with a broad audience.

We expanded our Indigenous programming hosting two webinars with guest speaker, Carolyn King and hosted the Sunrise Equinox Ceremony in March. We appreciate the support of the Rotary Club of Mississauga and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation for their sponsorship of these programs. Throughout the year we recognized National Day for Truth & Recognition, Treaties Recognition Week, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, Red Dress Day and Orange Shirt Day

We received funds through the Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grant to improve the kitchen and install much needed lighting and hand drying stations. We were also successful in securing an Ontario Trillium Foundation SEED grant for an Indigenous Oral History program.

Our 1812 re-enactment Company hosted drill days, and represented our community at the Battle of Fort Erie, Stoney Creek and Queenston Heights re-enactment weekends. They participated in the Caledon Canada Day celebration, hosted Engagement at Bradley and supported Remembrance Day ceremonies in the community laying wreaths honouring 1812 Veterans.

Douglas expressed his thanks to fellow Directors and Heritage Mississauga Staff for their support during the last year, as we continued to provide heritage content and programming to a broader audience and ensured that we were able to celebrate the unique and diverse heritage of our community.

The President concluded his remarks by acknowledging with appreciation and sincere thanks to:

- **Summer Students:** Taysia Laforme, Emily Own and Eden Tesfaye
- **Interns:** Zoe Arruda and Daston Babakan
- **Volunteers:** Chukwudum Anozie, Kathy Baker, Savanna Buehlman Barbeau, Debbie Bruce, Dwight Bryan, Ky Burton, Yvonne Carraro, Richard Collins, Roxanne Cruz, Jake Dheer – Remembrance Day, Sophia Davoli, John Eigl, Amelia Fernandes, Les Gaspar, Prisha Gupta, Naisha Hamzah, Douglas Hancock – Remembrance Day, Bryan Ho, Kashir Hussain, Andrew Keenan, Antoniette Khreich, Stephen Lyn – Remembrance Day, Kevin Lyn – Remembrance Day, Janice Cole Mabey, Nicole Mair, Nina Matis, Emily Owen, Noura Papayiannis, Robyn Persaud, Paulina Piatek, Mark Pollard – Remembrance Day, Qusai Qaoud, Judy Selics, Tiana Severiano, Karine Soobroydoo, Michael Spaziani – Remembrance Day, Robert Stanczyk, Claire Stutzenberger Mohammed Tahir, Amanda Templeton, Maxwell Thornton – Remembrance Day, John Wilson, Hazem Zienelabdeen, Carol Zweep, The Haunted Mississauga Spirit Team of 35 volunteers, Thompson's Company 2nd Regiment of York, team of 23 volunteers.
- **Exhibit Partners:** Alce Art & Health, Silvia Radvansky, Leo Dias, and Sauga Plein Air Group. The artist collective created a 50th anniversary painting and donated it to Heritage Mississauga. Many thanks to the artists for their generous donation.
- **Our Donors and funders:** City of Mississauga, The Ontario Trillium Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, RAMA Charity Gaming, Charity Gaming Mississauga, Rotary Club of Mississauga, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Community Foundation of Mississauga Hazel McCallion Fund, Event Sponsors, Member donations and support.

With our Thanks

We would like to thank one of our directors who has stepped down from his role as our Treasurer – Rob Clause. We appreciate Rob's work with us on the Executive and wish him all the best in his next volunteer experience.

We have been lucky to find a new Treasurer in Aamer Siddiqui and welcome him to our Executive and Board. Aamer is the CFO of Treefrog Group a Digital Agency, involved in marketing, development and design.

And now could I ask our Treasurer, Aamer Siddiqui, to speak to the Audited Financial Statements?

5. Audited Financial Statements

(Aamer Siddiqui, Treasurer)

Aamer Siddiqui reviewed the audited financial statements.

Motion #3 *Moved by Aamer Siddiqui and seconded by Greg Carraro that the auditor's Report for 2024 be approved and adopted. Carried.*

6. Appointment of Auditor

(Aamer Siddiqui, Treasurer)

Motion #4 *Moved by Michael Buchert and seconded by Karen Travers that Rhodes Professional Corporation are hereby appointed auditors for the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc. until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed. Carried*

7. Ratification of the Actions of the Directors

(Douglas Hancock, President)

Motion #5 *Moved by Gabriella Bank and seconded by Richard Collins that all acts, contracts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Incorporated since the last Annual General Meeting be approved. Carried*

8. Election of Directors

(Douglas Hancock, President)

Members received with their meeting invitation a slate of officers and biographies for the 2025-2026 year. The Nominating Committee is made up of Greg Carraro, Aamer Siddiqui, Michael Buchert, Jayme Gaspar and Douglas Hancock. Three candidates have presented their names for nomination tonight. Mississauga Heritage Foundation has a slate of officers comprised of no less than six (6) and no more than twelve (12) members. Douglas introduced the members who are on the Board.

Appointed by Council of the City of Mississauga: Ward 1 Councillor **Stephen Dasko**, Ward 9 Councillor **Martin Reid** and Ward 11 Councillor **Brad Butt**.

Appointed by the Band Council of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation: (Cultural Committee Chair) **Faith Rivers**.

In the 1st year of their 3-year term are: **Michael Buchert, Ron Duquette and Aamer Siddiquie**

In their 2nd and 3rd year of their 3-year terms are: **Greg Carraro, Frank Giannone, Michael Spaziani, Luz del Rosario, Jake Dheer, Michael Parsons and Douglas Hancock,**.

Douglas asked the membership if there were any nominations from the floor. No nominations were presented, and the nominations were then closed.

Motion #6 *Moved by: Mavis Wilson and Seconded by: Gabriella Bank that the Board of Directors as listed and proposed be approved as the 2025-2026 Board of Directors Carried.*

9. New Business

(Douglas Hancock)

No new business was presented.

11. Adjournment

(Douglas Hancock)

Motion #9 *Moved by: Michael Buchert, seconded by Joanne Ross that the MHF's 65th Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Carried*

At the end of the meeting one name was drawn from our members to receive a gift from FRAM + Slokker for a weeks stay at *Torre Fiore* in Southern Italy. We appreciate the support of Frank Giannone and FRAM + Slokker to help us build our membership with this gift.

Douglas Hancock thanked the members and guests present for their attendance at the meeting and after a brief break introduced our guest speakers:

- Matthew Wilkinson, who spoke on the 200th Anniversary of St. Peter's Anglican Church Erindale
- John Dunlop, Manager Indigenous Relations, Heritage Planning and Museums, who introduced: Nathalie Estephan and Tasnima Fahmin, Graduate Students from the Master of Urban Innovation Program at University Toronto at Mississauga who spoke on their project: Beyond Designation: Expanding Mississauga's Heritage Horizons.