

**Mississauga Heritage Foundation
Virtual Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 28, 2024
Eden United Church**



1. Call to Order by Chair

(Douglas Hancock –President)

Douglas Hancock welcomed everyone to the 64th 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 7:30 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 Greg Carraro, and seconded by Michael Buchert, that the Minutes of the Meeting be taken by Meghan Mackintosh. Carried*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held May 31, 2023.

(Douglas Hancock- President)

Motion #2 *Moved by Michael Buchert and seconded by Rob Clause, that the Minutes of the MHF Members Annual General Meeting held May 31, 2023, be approved. Carried*

4. Presidents Remarks

(Douglas Hancock- President)

Prior to his remarks the President invited Heritage Mississauga Historian Matthew Wilkinson to say a few words about the 200th anniversary of Eden United Church.

It is a rare occasion that we can commemorate a 200th anniversary here in Mississauga, but Eden United Church in Meadowvale has reached that venerable milestone here in 2024.

In the early 1830s a log meeting house was built on the Samuel's farm – on what was part of Lot 10, Concession 6, WHS. This property passed to Samuel's son John Switzer (1797-1877) in 1834. The meeting house functioned both as a schoolhouse and served the early congregation as a church and was part of the York Methodist Episcopal Circuit. John Switzer formally sold ¼ acre of his property to five trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist congregation for a chapel and cemetery on January 29, 1840. The community then organized to erect a new church building. This frame church was opened for service on December 13, 1840, by Reverend Egerton Ryerson.

As the congregation flourished and grew, it became apparent that a new church building would be needed. Directly across the road from the cemetery (at what is now the northeast corner of Derry Road and Copenhagen Road) a new church lot was granted by Isaac Waite in 1867. Opening services for the new brick church were held on February 2, 1869, after which the old frame chapel, by then known as Switzer's Church, was dismantled – the cemetery remains today, marking the location of the original church.

The new, larger brick church was a cornerstone of the early crossroads community, and the Wesleyan Methodist congregation christened their new church with the name Eden. The brick church served the community up until 1908, when it was gutted by fire. Not to be defeated, the congregation rebuilt on the old foundations. A few years later the church was damaged again, this time in the great cyclone of 1923. Eden Wesleyan Methodist Church became part of the new United Church in 1925 and served the community until 1979, even as the historic hamlet of Lisgar gradually disappeared under the suburban development of Meadowvale in the 1960s and emergence of the City of Mississauga in 1974.

The congregation decided to sell the old church and moved into the new Meadowvale West Church Campus, with a dedication service being held on May 4, 1980. The old Eden United Church was demolished in 1980.

The new (and current) Eden United Church was opened on August 24, 1989. Located at 3051 Battleford Road, the congregation continues its long tradition of serving its community, only a short distance away from where it all began, 200 years ago, on the Switzer farm.

Presidents Remarks

Welcome to all those in-person and online. It is truly wonderful to re-connect with you, our members, our supporters, our community.

Heritage Mississauga connects with its community in many ways – Constant Contact, Facebook, Twitter (my favourite), Instagram, YouTube and online gatherings. Live events have returned to full capacity including last years highly successful *The Credits*, honouring 42 “Heritage Heroes”. We presented two induction ceremonies of Legends Row. In January we inducted Jim Tovey, Michael “Pinball” Clemons and for the first time, a group Trillium Health Partners. Then in November we inducted Jack Prazeres, Patti Jannetta and Peter Gilgan.

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. 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:

Throughout this past year, Board and Staff embarked on a Strategic Planning exercise with support from the Canadian Red Cross and the Community Services Recovery Fund. We have revamped our Vision to read: Mississauga’s Heritage Advocate and our new Mission is: Celebrating Mississauga’s heritage through research, promotion and learning.

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 beginning with a Sunrise Equinox Ceremony in March, hosted two webinars with guests, Kim Wheatley and Mark Sault. We appreciate the support of the Rotary Club of Mississauga and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation for their sponsorship of this program. 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’s Resilient Communities Fund to support new branding and logo design (watch social media channels this summer for announcements), customer management software, support for staff to focus on building our resiliency, training and social media advertising.

Our 1812 re-enactment Company hosted drill days, supported events in Ward 3 and Ward 11, represented our community at the Battle of Fort Erie, Stoney Creek and Queenston Heights re-enactment weekends, hosted Engagement at Bradley and supported Remembrance Day ceremonies in the community laying wreaths honouring 1812 Veterans. In addition, we held our annual Canada Pavilion at Carassauga Festival of Cultures, this year focused

on the 50th anniversary and all things 1974. We also supported the Museums of Mississauga's new app "History Hunt", download today and visit 50 sites, learn about 50 artifacts and so much cool information as you travel throughout the city.

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, Rachel McCallum, Neha Mumtaz, Emily Own and Eden Tesfaye
- **Interns:** Emily Owen, Daston Babkan, 8 Students from Centennial College's Museums and Cultural Management internship program "Storyworks"
- **COOP Education Students:** Isaac Joseph, Maham Zaman
- **Volunteers:** Shannon Andrews, Kathy Baker, Savanna Buehlman Barbeau, Fred Blair, Debbie Bruce, Yvonne Carraro, Joshua Carasco, Richard Collins, John Eigl, Elaine Eigl, Rebecca Flemister, Tom Fournier, Les Gaspar, Bryan Ho, Jackson Hoogenboom, Isaac Joseph, Andrew Keenan, Antoinette Khreich, Stephen Lyn, Kevin Lyn, Janice Cole Mabee, Nicole Mair, Miatah McCallum, Rachel McCallum, Ross Noel, Diane Persaud, Katherine Russo, Matthew Russo, Jessica Sadowski, Judy Selics, Michael Spaziani, Robert Stanczyk, Kim Thomas, Maxwell Thorton, Amanda Templeton, Victoria Toste, Robert Paul Weber, Hazem Zienelabdeen, The Haunted Mississauga Spirit Team of 30 volunteers, Thompson's Company 2nd Regiment of York, team of 21 volunteers.
- **Exhibit Partners:** Alce Art & Health, Amanda Barbosa, Artists Without Borders, Sybil Clothier, Girl Guides of Canada, John Hammill, Bryan Ho, Janice Cole Mabee, Nicole Mair, Museums of Mississauga, Orlinski Museum, Emily Owen, Robert Stanczyk, Stan Skrzyszewski, and Megan Wiles
- **Our Donors and funders:** City of Mississauga, The Ontario Trillium Foundation, Canadian Red Cross, 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.

Douglas then asked Treasurer, Rob Clause, to speak to the Audited Financial Statements.

5. Audited Financial Statements

(Rob Clause, Treasurer)

Rob Clause reviewed the audited financial statements.

Motion #3 *Moved by Rob Clause and seconded by Michael Buchert that the auditor's Report for 2023 be approved and adopted. Carried.*

6. Appointment of Auditor

(Rob Clause, Treasurer)

Motion #4 *Moved by Greg Carraro and seconded by Michael Buchert 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 Michael Spaziani 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 2024-2025 year. The Nominating Committee is made up of Greg Carraro, Rob Clause, Michael Buchert, Jayme Gaspar and Douglas Hancock. Four 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: **Greg Carraro, Rob Clause, Frank Giannone and Michael Spaziani**. In their 2nd and 3rd year of their 3-year terms are: **Luz del Rosario, Jake Dheer, Michael Parsons and Douglas Hancock Michael Buchert, Ron Duquette**.

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: Michael Parsons and Seconded by: Michael Buchert that the Board of Directors as listed and proposed be approved as the 2024-2025 Board of Directors Carried.*

9. Bylaws and Articles of Amendment - ONCA

(Douglas Hancock, President)

Douglas Hancock reviewed the changes to the Bylaws as required by Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act. Then asked the members to approve the new Bylaws and Articles of Amendment.

Motion #7 *Moved by Michael Spaziani and seconded by Richard Collins that the amendments to the bylaws in the form of a new general bylaw and Articles of Amendment as presented this evening be approved as written. Carried.*

Motion #9 *Moved by: Richard Collins and seconded by Michael Buchert to approve the Articles of Amendment be approved to be registered. Carried.*

10. New Business

(Douglas Hancock)

No new business was presented.

11. Adjournment

(Douglas Hancock)

Motion #9 *Moved by: Greg Carraro, seconded by Richard Collins that the MHF's 64th Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Carried*

Douglas Hancock thanked the members and guests present for their attendance at the meeting and after a brief break introduced our guest speakers former Councillor Pat Saito and Board member Michael Spaziani who spoke on the 50th anniversary of the City of Mississauga.

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.