

**Mississauga Heritage Foundation
Virtual Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 27, 2026
Small Arms Inspection Building**



1. Call to Order by Chair

(Douglas Hancock –President)

Douglas Hancock welcomed everyone to the 66th 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 Greg Carraro, 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 27, 2025.

(Douglas Hancock- President)

Motion #2 *Moved by Ron Duquette and seconded by Mike Parsons, that the Minutes of the MHF Members Annual General Meeting held May 27, 2025, 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 Small Arms Inspection Building in recognition of the opening this weekend of the Jim Tovey Conservation District.

Heritage Mississauga connects with its community in many ways – Constant Contact, Facebook, Twitter (my favourite), Instagram, YouTube and online gatherings. 2025 was an exceptional year for heritage celebration across the city. We hosted and participated in over 640 programs serving approximately 116,710 across the city and beyond.

Our social media communications campaigns continue to be successful with 10,471 followers and a reach of 1,441,729 in 2025. As well as hosting our own yearly programs we presented this years History Symposium, participated in 5 festivals, attended 6 out of town 1812 re-enactments, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Port Credit Cenotaph with the help of a Veterans Affairs grant, published a new comic, completed renovations at the Grange, presented 3 art exhibitions and welcomed over 8000 visitors to the Canada Pavilion at Carassauga.

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. We are grateful to the City of Mississauga for additional grant funding in 2025 to support operations of the Foundation.

Our staff is second to none. Our thanks to Executive Director Jayme Gaspar, Historian Matthew Wilkinson, Culture Heritage|Creative Strategist Meghan Mackintosh, Social Media & Communications Strategist Melissa Toste, Collections, Resource and Collections Specialist Madeleine Henry and through the generous support of our City grant we have been able to hire a 6th member of staff. Bert Jagoda joined our staff late last year as our People and Culture Administrator. 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:

2025 was an extraordinary year for Heritage Mississauga, marked by meaningful celebrations, exceptional programming, and strong community engagement. The year included the first Legend's Row Induction ceremony held in the City Council Chambers, welcoming four new inductees: Annie Parker, Frank Giannone, Nav Bhatia and Yi-Ja Susanne Hou. Weekly programs such as LIVE with Meghan, Wayback Wednesdays, heritage articles with Modern Mississauga Media, and Ask A Historian continued to connect the community with local history. We also celebrated and recognized important Indigenous events and milestones, including the Sunrise Equinox Ceremony led by Knowledge Keeper Mark Sault, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Treaties Recognition Week, Red Dress Day, Orange Shirt Day and Indigenous Peoples Day. Our annual Credits Heritage Awards recognized 50 Heritage Heroes with more than 400 community members in attendance, introducing a new wooden paddle award symbolizing travel, life's journey, connection to the water and the First Nations communities connected to the Credit River.

Heritage Mississauga also remained deeply engaged in the broader community throughout the year, recognizing important cultural anniversaries and promoting awareness through initiatives such as Asian Heritage Month, Black History Month and Ramadan. The 2nd York Militia brought history to life through drill days, historical re-enactments and participation in community Remembrance Day ceremonies. At Carassauga 2025, we celebrated the old family tradition of the "Great Canadian Road Trip" welcoming over 8000 visitors. This year Heritage Mississauga welcomed visitors with a sports-themed experience featuring lacrosse, field hockey, pickleball, disc golf and shinny hockey games. The year reflected Heritage Mississauga's continued evolution—changing the way we work, reaching broader audiences through engaging content, and ensuring that the unique and diverse heritage of the community continues to be celebrated.

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:** Zoe Arruda, Miguel Cruz Orozco, Taysia Laforme, Isabella Lujan and Eden Tesfaye
- **Interns:** Zoe Arruda and Darrion Singh, Liz De Curtis, Hannah Park, Dwight Bryan
- **Volunteers: Resource Centre** - Kathy Baker, Savanna Buehlman Barbeau, Richard Collins, Justine Lyn, Janice Cole Mabee, Karen Travers, Carol Zweep
- **Legend's Row** - Ron Duquette, Douglas Hancock, Jake Dheer, Diane Kalenchuk, Judy Tutty
- **Program** - Chukwudum Anozie, Mary Rose Ayoub, Vanessa Barbuto, Debbie Bruce, Savanna Buehlman, Barbeau, Dwight Bryan, Joshua Carasco, Richard Collins – Remembrance Day, Bernadette Cruzzola, Luz del Rosario – Remembrance Day, Amelia Fernandes, Les Gaspar, David Gonzalez, Andrew Hancock, Douglas, Hancock – Remembrance Day, Jackson Hoogenboom, Oscar Huang, Kallie Keena, Piper Keena, Antoniette Khreich, Bert Jagoda – Remembrance Day, Stephen Lyn – Remembrance Day, Kevin Lyn – Remembrance Day, Nina Matis, Enrique Mendez, Emily Owen, Gabriel Padron, Michelle Prybylo, William Ramalheiro – Remembrance Day, Judy Selics, Karine Soobroydoo, Michael Spaziani – Remembrance Day Claire Stutzenberger, Mohammed Tahir, Ishita Visali, Jordan Zhao, Hazem Zienelabdeen, Carol Zweep
- **2nd York** - Phil Booker Sr., Paolo Borge, Greg Carraro, Luca Carraro, Ron Clayden, Richard Collins, Gabriel Coulson, Ryan Dollimore, Omar El Sharkawy, Ann Irwin, Walker Irwin, Bert Jagoda, Max Jagoda, Patrick Lloret, Kevin Lyn, Steve Lyn, Laura McVey, William Ramalheiro, Cameron Scott, Harry Scott, Joshua Silcox-Childs, Leah Simeone, Maxwell Thornton, Gregory Tomchyshyn, Peter Tomchyshyn, Philip Tomchyshyn, Charlotte Wilkinson, Mavis Wilson
- **Haunted Mississauga** - Tom Agnew, Phil Booker Sr., Savanna Buehlman Barbeau, Joshua Carasco, Angela Caravaggio, Bruno Caravaggio, Lucas Caravaggio, Greg Carraro, Maureen Collins, Richard Collins, Michael Davies, Lindsay Doren, Noelle Droppo, Jayme Gaspar, Les Gaspar, Linda Ghirardo, Madeleine Henry, Bryan Ho, Bert Jagoda, Max Jagoda, Brian Keena, Kallie Keena, Piper Keena, Stephanie Ramm Keena, Kim Lemiski, Meghan Mackintosh, Denise Mahoney, Nicole Mair, Arlene Manning, Fran Murphy, Emily Owen, Ryan Parks, Becky Rusk, Leah Simeone, Darrion Singh, Amanda Templeton, Melissa Toste, Chris Travers, Karen Travers,

Mary Ellen Wigle, Thom Wigle, Amy Wilkinson, Carter Wilkinson, Charlotte Wilkinson, Matthew Wilkinson, Paula Wubbenhorst, Joe Zammit

Exhibit Partners: Silvia Radvansky / ALCE, Trazos Latinos, Stephen Uhraney. 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, Veterans Affairs Canada, Event Sponsors, and Member donations and support.

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 Michael Buchert that the auditor's Report for 2025 be approved and adopted. Carried.*

6. Appointment of Auditor

(Aamer Siddiqui, Treasurer)

Motion #4 *Moved by Michael Buchert and seconded by Michael Spaziani 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 Rob Penyk and seconded by Dave Cook 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 2026-2027 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: Luz del Rosario, Jake Dheer, Michael Parsons and Douglas Hancock.
- In their 2nd and 3rd year of their 3-year terms are: Michael Buchert, Ron Duquette and Aamer Siddiqui, Greg Carraro, Frank Giannone and Michael Spaziani.

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: Greg Carraro and Seconded by: Michael Spaziani that the Board of Directors as listed and proposed be approved as the 2026-2027 Board of Directors. Carried.*

9. New Business

(Douglas Hancock)

No new business was presented.

11. Adjournment

(Douglas Hancock)

Motion #7 *Moved by: Michael Buchert, seconded by Rob Penyk that the MHF's 66th 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: Jesse DeJager and Raiden Levesque from Credit Valley Conservation to speak to the beautiful conservation area that will be opening this week: the Jim Tovey Conservation Area.