



MEETING AGENDA

Meeting/Project Name:	Cultural Heritage Working Group
Date of Meeting: (MM/DD/YYYY)	10/18/2016
Time:	5:00-7:00 pm
Location:	Councillors' Lounge, City Hall
Meeting Facilitator:	Jennifer Campbell, Manager, Cultural Heritage

1. Meeting Objective

Review objectives of cultural heritage working group. Offer feedback on Heritage Resource Centre videos. Set priority interests moving forward and process for meetings.

2. Committee Members

Name	Present	Regrets
Laura Murray	x	
Maxime Chouinard		x
Ann Blake	x	
Peter Gower	x	
Alicia Boutillier	x	
Christo Aivalis	x	
Jennifer Campbell	x	
Stephen Smith	x	
Rodney Carter	x	
Sunita Gupta	x	
Paul Carl	x	
Peter Goheen	x	
Sherman Hill		x

3. Meeting Agenda

Topic	Owner
Introduction of members	Jennifer Campbell, all
Review of working group objectives and intents	Jennifer Campbell
Volunteer/Working Group Procedures	Jennifer Campbell
Urban Indigenous Community	Paul Carl
Neighbourhood Heritage	Paul Carl
Heritage Resource Centre Videos	Jennifer Campbell

4. Pre-work/Preparation (documents/handouts to bring, reading material, etc.)

Description	Prepared by
NA	

MEETING NOTES

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Time:	5:00-7:00 pm
Location:	Councillors' Lounge, City Hall
Meeting Notes:	Jennifer Campbell, Manager, Cultural Heritage

1. Notes, Decisions, Issues

Meeting organization moving forward:

- City staff will continue to act as chair, call meetings, and setting agendas moving forward. It was decided that staff will bring a series of projects to the working group that speak to the existing mandate. These projects will also serve as a means of understanding how the working group can approach projects, as collaborative/team based work.
- A dropbox will be set up to allow the group to share working files and background information etc.
- Over the next several months the working group will meet monthly. This may change as work flow/projects change.
- Members will review agenda's ahead of meetings and will be able to make additions. Each meeting will also include a "discussion" period where members can discuss heritage matters broadly, bring updates about community news, or propose items for the working group to consider.
- The group will also work with City Staff on Cultural Heritage exhibitions, educational programming, and site interpretation. This conforms with the groups role to act as Museum Advisory Committee, per Museum Standards and as necessary for the CMOG Grant.
- Sherman Hill has decided to leave the working group. He sent his request via email to the entire group, noting that he felt the group has good representation and that he could focus his contribution on the planning working group and on the Heritage Kingston Committee.

Volunteer Handbook and procedures for working groups:

- The working group discussed the request for members to undergo onboarding and training as City of Kingston Volunteers. No one was in favour of working groups being held to the same requirements as volunteers and everyone expressed concern about training requirements, the need for background checks (CPICS), and the signing of waivers.
- Questions included:
 - Why CPIC? Groups are not working with vulnerable populations. If needed, who would pay?
 - Why training?
- Conflicting position of being asked to sit on a committee, then being told it is a volunteer position and now requiring handbooks, waivers, training, and CPICS.

Walking Tours:

- There was a general conversation regarding the challenges of walking tours, as hosted by the COK through the Cultural Services Department. The points raised were;
 - Representation is needed from across the City of Kingston
 - Can groups submit their own walking tours? Should they be recruited?
 - Multiple language tours needed for tourism
 - Should these stop all together? They could then be moved back out to the community where they would not need to be vetted by COK?
 - How is the growth of the city over time reflected?
 - Could there be a driving tour? Or a City Bus Tour? To move people out of the downtown. What about virtual tours?

The Urban Indigenous Community

- Paul Carl spoke to the Urban Indigenous community and shared information about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Task Force organizing through Queens University. This task force is hosting open consultation meetings with the end goal of developing Policy at Queens.
- The group wondered if the COK might be able to partner on this initiative.
- Staff shared that the COK has an Engage for Change sesquicentennial project in process for 2017; which aligns with the objectives of this TRC Task Force. It was requested that more information regarding this initiative be brought to a future meeting. Staff targeted the December meeting.
- The greetings on the COK website were also discussed. It is felt that the City of Kingston website ought to have an indigenous greeting, alongside the English and French greetings. There was discussion about how this request could be processed.

Neighbourhood Heritage

- Paul Carl spoke to the need for fostering Neighbourhood Heritage. How can we raise interest in Heritage, local neighbourhood based, outside of the downtown. This returned to a conversation about walking tours, and potentially websites like History and Innovation.
- The need for councillors to drive interest in their regions and to press for community involvement in existing directives.
- Public art, programming, and exhibitions were all discussed as ways to move forward. There was concern about moving too quickly on projects and that this might not facilitate full conversations based on well researched and understood histories. The counter position was also discussed where by acting quickly people are engaged and oversights, historic errors, or omissions can be corrected as part of an evolving engagement.
- Can we work toward community steering committees?
- Agreement that the focus needs to be on engagement and earnest representation leading to community involvement and not good PR

Common concerns/ideas to consider as we engage projects:

- We agreed as a group that there were a series of recurrent themes in our conversations thus far that we should incorporate into or consider in the projects we work on moving forward. These themes include (with more likely to come as discussion grow):
 - The urban indigenous community
 - Neighbourhood heritage
 - Representation, diversity, and inclusion
 - Unsanitized histories, uncomfortable histories, unpopular truths
 - Social and economic barriers to inclusion and underrepresentation
 - “Tokenism” and appearing to serve PR and not a cultural mandate

Heritage Resource Center Video Feed-back

- The group watched the three videos addressing Cultural Heritage topics developed for the Heritage Resource Centre within City Hall. These videos are not yet on display and Staff requested feedback about the videos, with a focus on how these videos could be used and how best to frame their delivery.
- The first video; “Reconciling spaces, places and peoples” was well received and the group felt it would make a valuable contribution to the HRC as well as a to a broader community; could be shared with schools. It was felt that this video should be shared with Heritage Kingston as well as with City Council.
- Paul Carl asked about the image in the video of the Sacred Fire, from National Aboriginal Day, and if it permission to use the photo had been received. Staff did not know, but agreed to check the photo permissions and ensure that permission had been received prior to the video being shared publically.
- The second, “Putting the pieces together” and third, “Multiple futures” videos, were less well received. The group raised a number of concerns above the content and its delivery, as well as flagging topics that HRC videos could cover moving forward.
- Concerns were;
 - The videos were too long for social media or HRC visitors but not long enough to deeply engage with the issues raised.
 - There was no central topic or thesis apparent in the videos.
 - The vidoes did not engage the viewer
 - Diversity in the films seemed token
 - The West-end township was not represented.
 - Repetition of background shots and transition scenes.
 - Military is discussed but not prisons, Queens, or City Hall.
- Suggestions for these two videos included:
 - Shelving them
 - Re-editing them, or breaking them into “shorts”
- Video Ideas moving forward:
 - Keep the message simple. More videos with focussed messaging
 - Multi-lingual videos
 - City Hall history
 - Kingston’s growth as a municipality
 - Katarkowi History
 - The Townships/Heritage neighbourhoods

- Kingston Today-Diversity and ethno-cultural communities
- Industrial Heritage
- What is a heritage designation?

Projects to address in next meetings:

- November: The Heritage Resource Centre – Programming
- Decemeber: Engage for Change – Sesquicentennial Project, 2017 Museum Exhibitions and Programming
- January: City Hall Interpretation and Cultural Heritage Website Development

4. Action Items	
Action	Owner
Set-up drop box	Jennifer Campbell
Prioritize upcoming working group projects based on staff and council timelines for delivery	Jennifer Campbell
Set Agenda for next meeting	Jennifer Campbell

5. Next Meeting (if applicable)	
Objective:	Heritage Resource Centre, Video Update, Mandate, Programming.
Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	11/15/2016
Time:	5-7pm
Location:	Councillors' Lounge, City Hall