



The members of the NOTL Canada Sesquicentennial Committee met on October 18, 2016 in the Mary Snider Room at the Centennial Arena at 1:45pm.

**PRESENT:**

Bill Cowie, Rick Meloen, Richard Coyne, Lord Mayor Pat Darte, Amanda Gamble, Tony Chisholm, Sheldon Randall, Janice Thompson, Lisa Curtis, Sarah Kauffman, Clare Cameron, John Mather, Bill French, Cheryl Morris, Sarah Bowers (representing Cathy Simpson). Guests: Ryan Donnelly (from Wayne Gates' office), Michele-Elise Burnett (Kakekalanicks Indigenous Consulting Co.)

**ABSENT:**

Terry Flynn, Janice Thompson, Lisa Curtis

Co-Chair Bill Cowie called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:**

There were no conflicts of interest declared at this time.

**MATTERS FROM MINUTES:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**DELEGATIONS:**

There were no delegations made at this meeting.

AGENDA for October 18, 2016 approved by all.

MINUTES of Oct 4, 2016 meeting were approved by all.

**BUSINESS:**

1. Presentation by Ryan Donnelly on celebration of 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of first Ontario parliament:
  - Background: Lord Mayor, Co-chairs Rick Meloen and Bill Cowie, and Cheryl Morris had met with Ryan and Wayne Gates on October 13 to discuss how the province would be interested in celebrating this anniversary. Rick and Bill presented the Committee's plan to have a re-enactment, music performances in a public event on or around Sept 17. It was determined that Gates' office would investigate interest from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, as well as possible funding sources.
  - Ryan mentioned a few grant programs available [note: these have either been applied for already by the Committee or deadlines have passed]
  - Ryan said he is reaching out to other political caucuses to gauge interest in participating in our event. When asked if there is enough time to invite MPPs and other dignitaries, Ryan responded that once interest is expressed, he would check their availability for Sept 17 and work with the Committee to make sure all is in place quickly. He would manage invitations, or assist coordinating joint invitation from Gates & Lord Mayor.
  - Content suggestions (Clare, Rick, Sarah, Ryan, Lord Mayor, Michele-Elise): milestones including first female MPP, black history components like Act Against Slavery, indigenous communities.
  - Jim suggested forming a separate committee for the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary; Sheldon said this would require approval from Town Council, a separate budget and may be unlikely to be approved. Tony put forward the direction to form a sub-committee of the 150 Committee be formed. Members will include Sarah

Kauffman, Jim Alexander, Clare Cameron, Ryan Donnelly, Bill Cowie, Amanda Gamble. Others may be added later. All approved this direction.

2. Sub committees' reports
  - a. Finance: no report
  - b. Legacy: no report. Cheryl will set up meeting for sub-committee as soon as possible (members: Sarah K., Rick, Cathy Simpson). **If anyone has ideas for a legacy project please send to Rick by Nov 8, 2016.**
  - c. Communications:
    - a. Bill F discussed the decision to hold a public information meeting to create awareness of the Committee, solicit volunteers for sub-committees and events, and share existing or new plans for 2017 events. The need to use all channels possible to inform the public was mentioned by Clare and Sheldon. Jim made a recommendation to hold this meeting in mid-November.
  - d. Logistics: no report
  - e. Sponsorship: no report
  - f. Living Flag: Rick mentioned framed posters will be presented in person by Rick, Bill C and Lord Mayor on Oct 20. Jim congratulated Rick on a great idea and execution of event. **This agenda item can be removed for future meetings.**
  - g. New Year's Eve:
    - a. Dick Coyne – 156 tickets have been sold for the St Andrews event.
    - b. Bill C explained plans for the public event: band outside on Court House steps, no food, no alcohol, no street closing, some promotion of event (ad, posters), fence around cenotaph, sparklers/Canada flags handed out.
    - c. Noise and conflicting music at bars/restaurants on Queen St mentioned as possible show-stoppers.
    - d. Committee is in favor of a small public event on New Year's Eve.
    - e. **Sub-committee will investigate all possible impediments. Special event permit, noise level extension, map of logistics needed as soon as possible.**
  - h. Canada Day weekend
    - i. Friday night music event – meeting with Virgil Business Association set for Oct 20
    - ii. Saturday activities – no change from previous plan. Citizenship ceremony is being investigated by Cheryl and Carrie Enns.
    - iii. Sunday –
      - venue confusion from last meeting is resolved: Committee has Simcoe Park bandshell reserved. Rick, Bill C, Tony,
      - Cheryl met with Music/Jazz/Bravo Niagara on Oct 17. They are all engaged and interested in participating in both June 30 & July 2 events. Music Niagara expressed special interest in leading music program for the 225<sup>th</sup> commemoration event in Sept. We promised to meet with each group again once we know our funding. This is urgent as they have to start booking talent. They indicated that our cost estimate for performers was much too low if we want a “name” musical act.
      - Religious services: Sheldon urged caution on sponsoring any type of religious event, as we are a Committee of the town. Rick will report back after discussion with churches.
    - iv. Monday – Sarah K presented cost of \$1700 for participation in Doors Open. Committee is all in agreement to spend this. Cost covers some ads, signage, brochures & other province-wide promotional activities. As this is a go, Sarah will reach out to other cultural organizations in town to get engagement.
  - j. Education – no report
3. New business:
  - Rick: Should Canada 150 flags be raised in town?
  - Rick: Christmas Parade participation? Consensus was to apply for space and figure out what we want to do later.

Meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

**Next meeting: 1:30 p.m. Tuesday November 1 at Mori Room, Community Centre.**