

# AGENDA



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## MUSEUMS OF MISSISSAUGA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA  
[www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca)

**MONDAY, November 28, 2011 – 6:00 PM**

**BENARES VISITOR CENTRE  
1507 CLARKSON ROAD NORTH, MISSISSAUGA, ON L5J 2W8**

### Members

Jeremy Harvey, Citizen Member (**Chair**)  
Joseph Zammit, Citizen Member (**Vice Chair**)  
Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1  
Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2  
Anne Fabierkiewicz, Citizen Member  
Fred Durdan, Citizen Member  
John Pegram, Citizen Member  
John Van Camp, Friends of the Museums of Mississauga  
Joyce Delves, Citizen Member  
Lawrence Cook, Citizen Member  
Tamara Pope, Citizen Member  
Wendy Davies, Citizen Member  
Descendent of the Harris Family (*ex-officio*)

Contact: John Britto, Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk 905-615-3200 ext. 3795 Fax 905-615-4181  
[john.britto@mississauga.ca](mailto:john.britto@mississauga.ca)

CALL TO ORDER

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Update on Artifact Preservation Centre

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

- September 26, 2011

Recommend Adoption  
MG.30

2. MOMAC Terms of Reference

Update on MOMAC Terms of Reference.

3. Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2012

Memorandum dated November 1, 2011 from John Britto, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk, suggesting meeting dates for 2012.

Recommend Receipt  
MG.30

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT(S)

4. Report of the Collection and Artifact Storage Subcommittee meeting held October 4, 2011

*CASS-0005-2011*

*That the Report dated October 4, 2011 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Coordinator, be received*

*CS.07*

*CASS-0006-2011*

*That the Museums of Mississauga acquire the Cy Saddington desk and two chairs manufactured by H. Krug Furniture, Kitchener, and used by Cy Saddington, Mayor of the Town of Port Credit, until his retirement in 1975.*

*CS.07*

5. Report of the Collection and Artifact Storage Subcommittee meeting held November 1, 2011

*CASS-0007-2011*

*That the Report dated November 1, 2011 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Supervisor, be received*

*CS.07*

*CASS-0008-2011*

*That the news article from the Toronto Star of October 9, 2011, be received for information.*

*CS.07*

#### NEW BUSINESS

6. Report of The Friends of The Museums of Mississauga

Verbal report by a representative of the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga.

7. Museums Manager's Report

Memorandum dated November 28, 2011 from Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, presenting the Museums Manager's Report for the period September 1 to November 15, 2011.

Recommend Receipt

MG.30

8. Capital Projects Update

Memorandum dated November 28, 2011 from Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, presenting the Museums of Mississauga Capital Project Update.

Recommend Receipt

FA.04.BEN / CS.07.STR/MG.30.COL

9. Request for Funding from Benares Endowment Fund

Memorandum dated November 28, 2011 from Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, with respect to a request for funding from the Benares Endowment Fund for the conservation and preservation of Mary Magrath Harris' wedding dress.

Direction Required

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10. Ontario Museum Association (OMA) e-News Alert, Toronto -- November 14, 2011 -- Citizens line up to save Toronto's heritage.
11. New Waterloo museum tells powerful story of man who escaped slavery -- Luisa d'Amato, The Record, Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6:00pm, January 23, 2012 at Leslie Log House, 4415 Mississauga Road

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT



# MINUTES

## MUSEUMS OF MISSISSAUGA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA  
[www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 – 6:00 PM

BENARES VISITOR CENTRE  
1507 CLARKSON ROAD NORTH, MISSISSAUGA, ON L5J 2W8

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1  
Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2 (departed at 7:20pm)  
Anne Fabierkiewicz, Citizen Member  
Fred Durdan, Citizen Member  
Jeremy Harvey, Citizen Member (CHAIR)  
John Pegram, Citizen Member  
John Van Camp, Friends of the Museums of Mississauga  
Joseph Zammit, Citizen Member (Vice Chair)  
Joyce Delves, Citizen Member  
Wendy Davies, Citizen Member (departed at 7:15pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lawrence Cook, Citizen Member  
Tamara Pope, Citizen Member  
Descendent of the Harris Family (ex-officio)

STAFF PRESENT:

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager  
Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collections Coordinator  
John Britto, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Approved (Joe Zammit)

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS - Nil

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

- June 20, 2011

Adopted as presented (Councillor Pat Mullin)  
MG.30

2. Draft Terms of Reference

A copy of the Draft Terms of Reference of the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee was circulated for review, and comments/amendments were to be considered at the September MOMAC meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

MOMAC-0018-2011

That the approval of the draft Terms of Reference of the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee be deferred to the next MOMAC meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2011.

Approved: (Councillor Pat Mullin)  
MG.30

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT(S)

3. Report of the Collection and Artifact Storage Subcommittee meeting held August 30, 2011

RECOMMENDATION

MOMAC-0019-2011

That the report of the Collections and Storage Subcommittee from its meeting held August 30, 2011, be received and that recommendations CASS-0003-2011 through to CASS-0004-2011 be approved as presented:

1. That Joe Zammit be appointed as Chair of the Collection and Artifact Storage Subcommittee for the 2010-2014 Council term, or until a successor is appointed (CASS-0003-2011).
2. That the Report dated August 30, 2011 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Coordinator, be received (CASS-0004-2011).

APPROVED (Councillor Pat Mullin)

MG.30.COL

Joe Zammit, Chair of CASS commented on the importance of working in a partnership with the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM).

Fred Durdan commented on the original role of CASS and how it relates with MOMAC.

Jeremy Harvey, Chair of MOMAC suggested that additional resources will be needed for the proper implementation of MOMAC's strategy.

Councillor Pat Mullin advised that the outcome of the Feasibility Study indicates that partnerships are critical for the success of a Collection and Artifact Storage Facility.

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### 4. Report of The Friends of The Museums of Mississauga

Fred Durdan presented a verbal update on the summer activities of the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga:

- Attendance at the "On The Verandah" series increased by 30%.
- Visitation of a delegation from Kariya, Japan and opening of the Japanese Exhibition at the Anchorage.
- Fall Fair completed.
- Christmas Party for Museums volunteers and supporters has been organized for November 30, 2011.

Fred Durdan was of the opinion that events at the Museums should focus on generating revenue.

John van Camp advised that the Leslie Log House is up and running as a live museum outside of south Mississauga.

Councillor Pat Mullin recognized the importance of seeing museums as providing a City-wide service.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised of displays in the Great Hall at Civic Centre and also at the various Community Centres.

5. Museums Manager's Report

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager presented the Museums Manager's Report for the period June 1 to August 31, 2011 as contained in her Memorandum dated September 19, 2011.

Responding to a question from Councillor Jim Tovey with regard to parking for events at the Leslie Log House, Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that parking is organized on City Parks grounds through the City's Recreation and Parks Department.

Councillor Jim Tovey suggested the use of "Haze FM" to promote Museums activities and events.

RECOMMENDATION

MOMAC-0020-2011

That the Memorandum September 19, 2011 from Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, presenting the Museums Manager's Report for the period June 1 to August 31, 2011, be received.

RECEIVED (Councillor Jim Tovey)

MG.30

6. Capital Projects Update

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager presented an update on the Museums of Mississauga's Capital Projects as contained in her Memorandum dated September 19, 2011.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed repairs to the two chimneys at Benares, which is a Heritage Designated property. The alterations have been approved by the City's Heritage Advisory Committee, and a request for approval of the repairs has been submitted to the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT), as the OHT holds a heritage easement on the property.

Fred Durdan advised that the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga would be happy to fund the repairs for the Dutch Oven.

RECOMMENDATION

MOMAC-0021-2011

That the Memorandum dated September 19, 2011 from Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, presenting the Museums of Mississauga Capital Projects Update, be received.

RECEIVED (John van Camp)

2011FA.04.BEN / CS.07.STR/MG.30

7. Update on the Benares Funds – Fiscal Year 2010. Benares Historic House, 1503 Clarkson Road North, Mississauga Ward 2

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager provided an update on the Benares Funds for the 2010 fiscal year, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated September 12, 2011 from the Commissioner of Community Services, titled Update on the Benares Funds – Fiscal Year 2010 – Benares Historic House, 1503 Clarkson Road North, Mississauga, Ward 2.

RECOMMENDATION

MOMAC-0022-2011

That the Corporate Report dated September 12, 2011 from the Commissioner of Community Services, providing an update on the Benares Funds for the 2010 fiscal year, be received.

RECEIVED (Councillor Pat Mullin)

FA.24.BEN

8. 2012 MOMAC Work Plan

Based on the outcome of discussions, Jeremy Harvey, Chair of MOMAC summarized the following four key priorities for the 2012 Work Plan:

- Museums Vision
- Collection Strategy
- Collection & Storage Facility project
- Improved citizen engagement.

The first three priorities would be led, initially, by CASS, and the fourth priority by MOMAC.

Joe Zammit, Chair of CASS advised that the Feasibility Study has identified five interpretive themes.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that the Museums have passively collected artifacts and are limited due to lack of storage space and staff resources.

Councillor Pat Mullin advised that MOMAC has made good progress over a number of years. She further advised that the priority is to recognize the work of MOMAC. Councillor Mullin suggested that MOMAC Chair and Vice-Chair extend a formal invitation to the Mayor to attend a future MOMAC meeting, and a presentation on MOMAC's successes be made at that meeting.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager suggested that we need to look at creative ways to increase visitor numbers and decrease costs.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

9. Copy of Corporate Report entitled *Request to alter a Heritage Designated Property – Benares Main House, 1503 Clarkson Road North (Ward 2)* dated August 2, 2011 from the Commissioner of Community Services to the Chair and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee.

MOMAC-0023-2011

That the copy of Corporate Report entitled *Request to alter a Heritage Designated Property – Benares Main House, 1503 Clarkson Road North (Ward 2)* dated August 2, 2011 from the Commissioner of Community Services to the Chair and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee, be received.

RECEIVED (Joe Zammit)

MG.30

10. Letter dated August 18, 2011 from Chuck Scott, Peel Heritage Complex, Advisory Board Chair with respect to the appointment of Claire Loughheed as Manager of the Heritage Program.

MOMAC-0024-2011

That the Letter dated August 18, 2011 from Chuck Scott, Peel Heritage Complex, Advisory Board Chair with respect to the appointment of Claire Loughheed as Manager of the Heritage Program, be received.

RECEIVED (Councillor Jim Tovey)

MG.30

11. Letter dated August 26, 2011 from The Honorable Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism and Culture with respect to the approval of a grant of \$53,953 under the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) program for the 2011/2012 fiscal year.

MOMAC-0025-2011

That the Letter dated August 26, 2011 from The Honorable Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism and Culture with respect to the approval of a grant of \$53,953 under the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) program for the 2011/2012 fiscal year, be received.

RECEIVED (Fred Durdan)

FA.04.BEN / CS.07.STR/MG.30.COL

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6:00 p.m., Monday, November 28, 2011, Benares Visitor Centre.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT - 7:40pm

# Memorandum



Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011

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**DATE:** November 1, 2011

**TO:** Chair and members of the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee


**RE:** 2012 Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee Meeting Dates  
Clerks File No.: MG.30

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This is to advise that the following meeting dates have been scheduled for 2012:

Monday, January 23, 2012 (Leslie Log House, 4415 Mississauga Road)  
Monday, March 26, 2012  
Monday, June 18, 2012  
Monday, September 24, 2012  
Monday, November 26, 2012

Unless advised otherwise, these meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Benares Visitor Centre, 1503 Clarkson Road North.



**John Britto**  
Legislative Coordinator  
Legislative Services Division, Office of the City Clerk  
Phone: 905-615-3200 Ext. 3795  
E-Mail: [john.britto@mississauga.ca](mailto:john.britto@mississauga.ca)



Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011

# Report

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## COLLECTIONS AND STORAGE SUBCOMMITTEE (CASS)

Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011 - 7:00 PM**

Bradley Museum  
1620 Orr Road, Mississauga, ON L5J 4T2  
The Anchorage

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Zammit, Citizen Member MOMAC (**Chair**)  
Anne Fabierkiewicz, Citizen Member, MOMAC  
Jeremy Harvey, *ex-officio* as Chair of MOMAC  
Lawrence Cook, Citizen Member, MOMAC  
Wendy Davies, Citizen Member, MOMAC (arrived at 7:35pm)

STAFF PRESENT: Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager  
Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collection and Exhibit Coordinator  
John Britto, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

MEMBERS ABSENT: Becky Ryder, Museums Collections Volunteer

OTHERS: Tamara Pope, Citizen Member, MOMAC  
John Pegram, Citizen Member, MOMAC

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John Britto, Legislative Coordinator  
Legislative Services, 905-615-3200 ext. 3795 Fax: 905-615-4181  
[john.britto@mississauga.ca](mailto:john.britto@mississauga.ca)

CALL TO ORDER – 7:20pm

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

MATTERS DISCUSSED

1. Review of Report of previous meeting - Nil
2. Update and discussion on next steps for CASS and development of the Artifact Preservation Centre of the Museums of Mississauga

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager presented a verbal update on the Corporate Report presented to General Committee in early May.

It was advised that staff will present a report to the next CASS meeting on the vision for the Museums, encompassing the plans for the Artifact Preservation Centre and future Museum.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager discussed the impact of the proposed budget cuts in the City of Toronto on the work of the Culture Department in the City of Mississauga.

Jeremy Harvey, Chair MOMAC discussed the key aspects and the vision statement for the Museums of Mississauga for the next 15 years, which is scheduled to be presented to MOMAC at the November meeting.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) is very keen in working as a partner with the City in the Artifact Preservation Centre project. Annemarie further advised that UTM may have a much greater fund raising capacity.

Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collection and Exhibit Coordinator commented on the Cormack Carriage Collection auction. We attended the preview but there were not any carriages with historical connections to Mississauga.

Lawrence Cook suggested that attempts should be made to attract donations from other collectors.

Joe Zammit advised that the Museums should not always depend on the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga for providing the funds to purchase artifacts for the collections, but that we should have our own budget for that.

Jeremy Harvey, Chair of MOMAC advised that a procedure needs to be put in place for acquiring artifacts.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that the Museum staff are currently working on drafting a Collections Plan.

Tamara Pope, Citizen Member of MOMAC suggested that an education session be organized to explain the relevant Corporate Policies.

3. Key CASS priorities for 2012

Discussions ensued on a Museums Vision Statement and Collections Strategy.

Joe Zammit suggested that CASS continue to meet every month.

Jeremy Harvey suggested that focus groups may need to be formed in 2012.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that drafts of the Museums Vision and Mission Statement, Project Charter, and Collections Policy will be presented at the next CASS meeting.

4. Update from Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

Stephanie Meeuwse presented the Collections & Exhibit Coordinator's Report dated October 4, 2011.

CASS-0005-2011

That the Report dated October 4, 2011 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Coordinator, be received

Received (Lawrence Cook)

CS.07

Discussion ensued with respect to the Cy Saddington desk.

Tamara Pope, Citizen Member of MOMAC inquired whether there is a possibility to source rental places who would be willing to donate space to the Museums for storing collections and artifacts.

John Pegram, Citizen Member of MOMAC suggested that the City source private individuals who would be willing to store the Cy Saddington desk.

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that the Library is willing to temporarily store the Cy Saddington desk, until the opening of the Artifact Preservation Centre.

Wendy Davies, Citizen Member of MOMAC inquired whether public storages could be leased to store collections.

Wendy Davies moved the following motion which was voted on and carried.

CASS-0006-2011

That the Museums of Mississauga acquire the Cy Saddington desk and two chairs manufactured by H. Krug Furniture, Kitchener, and used by Cy Saddington, Mayor of the Town of Port Credit, until his retirement in 1975.

Approved (Wendy Davies)

CS.07

5. Update from Museums Manager

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager provided a verbal update on:

- possible closure of three City of Toronto historic house museums and its potential impact on the Museums of Mississauga.
- reorganization and staff movements within the Culture Division.
- possible change to public drop-in hours at the Museums.
- heritage designation of the Hancock property on 2151 Camilla Rd

6. Update on the Cormack Carriage Collection Auction

This item was discussed along with Agenda Items 2 and 3

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION - Nil

OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

Joe Zammit inquired whether there was a possibility of using the digital screens at the Mississauga Celebration Square to promote the Museums of Mississauga.

NEXT MEETINGS – November 1 and December 6, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 pm



# Report

## COLLECTIONS AND STORAGE SUBCOMMITTEE (CASS)

Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011 - 7:00 PM**

Bradley Museum  
 1620 Orr Road, Mississauga, ON L5J 4T2  
 The Anchoage

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Zammit, Citizen Member MOMAC (**Chair**)  
 Anne Fabierkiewicz, Citizen Member, MOMAC  
 Becky Ryder, Museums Collections Volunteer  
 Jeremy Harvey, *ex-officio* as Chair of MOMAC  
 Lawrence Cook, Citizen Member, MOMAC  
 Wendy Davies, Citizen Member, MOMAC (arrived at 7:35pm)

STAFF PRESENT: Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager  
 Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collection and Exhibit Coordinator  
 John Britto, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Britto, Legislative Coordinator  
 Legislative Services, 905-615-3200 ext. 3795 Fax: 905-615-4181  
[john.britto@mississauga.ca](mailto:john.britto@mississauga.ca)

CALL TO ORDER – 7:00pm

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

MATTERS DISCUSSED

1. Review of Report of previous meeting -

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager informed that the electronic screens in the Mississauga Celebration Square on either side of the stage are only used for publicizing events held in the Celebration Square. The electronic screens facing the street are owned by Astral Media, and there is a charge associated with advertising on these screens.

2. Review of Key CASS priorities for 2012

This item was considered in conjunction with Item 3.

3. Draft Museums of Mississauga Mission and Vision

3.1 Visioning Process

Jeremy Harvey advised that we need to look at where we are now and where we will be in fifteen years from now.

Discussion ensued with regard to Elements of Vision/Mission as illustrated in pages 3.1-1 and 3.1-2 of the Agenda.

Jeremy Harvey agreed to update the Museums of Mississauga – Visioning Process document (Item 3.1 of Agenda) based on outcome of discussions.

3.2 Draft Vision Statement

Draft statements for Museums of Mississauga Draft Vision were presented and discussed. Initial preferences included:

- 10,000 years of history relevant for today
- The making of Mississauga
- Preserving the past, engaging the present, pointing to the future
- Our journey from First Nation to Multicultural City

Based on the outcome of discussions, Jeremy Harvey, Chair MOMAC advised that these would be further refined and presented at the next MOMAC meeting.

### 3.3 Sample Vision and Mission

This item was considered in conjunction with Item 3.2.

## 4. Draft Collections Policy

### 4.1 Standards for Community Museums, Ontario Ministry of Culture

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager initiated discussion on the Standards for Community Museums as outlined by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC).

In response to a question from Lawrence Cook, Annemarie Hagan advised that the Standards for Community Museums in Ontario are internationally recognized.

Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collection and Exhibit Coordinator advised that museums that do not meet the MTC Standards for Community Museums in Ontario, do not received grants from the MTC.

### 4.2 Five Main Themes, From Feasibility Study

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager spoke briefly on the Summary of Focus Group Findings as outlined in Item 4.2 of the Agenda.

### 4.3 DRAFT Museums of Mississauga Collections Policy

Discussion ensued on the Draft Collections Management Policy.

Responding to a concern expressed by Joe Zammit, CASS Chair, Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager advised that CASS will deal with the acquisition of artifacts with values in excess of \$1,000 or where the donation may be deemed controversial.

## 5. Draft Project Charter

### 5.1 DRAFT Project Charter Version 5.0

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager presented to CASS members for review, the Draft Project Charter of the Museums of Mississauga Artifact Preservation Centre and Future Museum Facility.

Jeremy Harvey, Chair MOMAC advised that the Museums of Mississauga are on track with the project work.

Lawrence Cook expressed concerns regarding too much focus on the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM).

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager will work on a revised Project Charter, for the early stages of the project, to guide us over the next year or so.

6. Update from Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

Stephanie Meeuwse presented the Collections & Exhibit Coordinator's Report dated November 1, 2011.

CASS-0007-2011

That the Report dated November 1, 2011 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Supervisor, be received

Received (Jeremy Harvey)

CS.07

7. Update from Museums Manager

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager provided a verbal update on:

- reorganization and movement of staff in the Culture Division scheduled for November 7, 2011
- submission to the Canadian Museums Association (CMA)
- Ontario Museums Association (OMA) Conference on November 2, 2011 in Waterloo

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. RECOMMENDATION

That the new article from the Toronto Star of October 9, 2011, be received for information.

Received: (Wendy Davies)

OTHER BUSINESS

Joe Zammit commented on:

- Heritage Mississauga event

- Funding from the Federal Government for “War of 1812”
- Various events scheduled for 2012 on the War of 1812.

Annemarie Hagan commented on:

- Lectures on War of 1812
- First Nations involvement in the War of 1812
- Friends and Supporters Party on November 30, 2011 at Benares

NEXT MEETING – December 6, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:10pm

DRAFT

Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011



**museums**  
OF MISSISSAUGA  
shedding light on the past

## MEMO

**DATE:** November 28, 2011  
**TO:** Members of Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)  
**FROM:** Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, Community Services  
**RE:** Museums Manager's Report

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Please find attached the Museums Manager's Report to the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee, covering the period September 1 to November 15, 2011.

It was prepared for the November 28, 2011 MOMAC meeting.

Thank you,

Annemarie Hagan  
Museums Manager  
905-615-4860 ext. 2106



## Museums Manager's Report to MOMAC

September 1 to November 15, 2011

PROJECT	DETAILS
<p><b>Special Events</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 500 people enjoyed <b>'The Fall Festival'</b> was held at Bradley Museum on September 17. This year we focused on Historic games, crafts, with 5 new local Mississauga musicians. Part-time staff engaged visitors in historic demonstrations and crafts. Admission was free and 12 large boxes of food were collected for the local food bank in lieu of admission.</li> <li>• <b>Benares Historic Halloween</b> was a great success, with a record 849 people enjoying the event, 246 volunteer hours worked that day, and \$1,300 in sponsorship raised through the Friends and Partners program, courtesy Holcim and Meridian. In kind donations were graciously offered by La Villa Bakery, Dare Cookies and McDonalds. Media coverage included Mississauga Booster and two On-Camera interviews by Rogers Media.</li> <li>• Several of the full time staff of the Museums of Mississauga and Friends of the Museums of Mississauga volunteers assisted with <b>'Doors Open Mississauga'</b>. (39 sites were available for people to visit free of charge.) Over 6000 people attended this event. New to this year's tour was the Leslie Log House which saw more than 250 people throughout the day. The Leslie Log House was hosted by the Streestville Historical Society.</li> <li>• Once again this year the Museums of Mississauga were proud to host the <b>'Streetscape'</b> Awards evening in September. This event is a City wide initiative and celebrates the accomplishments of gardeners both with small and large gardens. Over 100 people were in attendance and the gardens of the Bradley Museum were a back drop for the presentations.</li> <li>• On October 15 &amp; October 16 Benares Historic house and the Bradley Museum hosted 6 different artists from <b>'The Lakeshore Art Trail'</b> annual show and sale. Over 450 people visited the two locations throughout the weekend enjoying local artists and their work.</li> <li>• <b>"Haunted Mississauga"</b> was held at the Bradley Museum on October 21, organized by Heritage Mississauga, using volunteers from both their organization and the Museums. Over 120 people attended the event, interacting with historic "ghosts" of real people who lived in Mississauga 200 years ago, on the eve of the War of 1812.</li> <li>• <b>Home for the Holidays</b> will be held this year at all three museum locations from noon to 4 pm on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Holiday music by the player piano, tours, Christmas cooking, and crafts will be available at Benares Historic House and at the Leslie Log House; Streestville Historical Society will be hosting a Christmas tea and crafts, as well as a special exhibit of Christmas toys. At Bradley Museum, Friends of the Museums are organizing photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, a log cabin tradition. Horse and Wagon rides will also be available, as well as a tea room and Christmas baking in the historic house.</li> </ul>

	<p>In lieu of admission for this event we ask for a non-perishable food items to help support local food banks. Sponsors for the event Port Credit Foundation, Holcim and Meridian Credit Union.</p>
<p><b>Educational and Pre-Registered Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of November 15<sup>th</sup>, we had <b>49 programs in total booked</b> for our fall season, this includes education programs and adult tours and teas. In comparison, we had a total of 28 programs in the same time period in 2010. The increase is due to improved promotion and communication with local schools and community groups.</li> <li>• The <b>monthly Afternoon Teas</b> at Bradley Museum by reservation have continued to grow. We have started asking for feed back from participants on the new Museums Evaluation forms. This feedback has continued to be very positive. November is full and we have added a second date in December.</li> <li>• Museums involved with <b>Business Planning's Pricing</b> Study being done across Recreation and Parks and Culture to simplify and consolidate program rates. Also involved are our admission rates.</li> <li>• All three sites are now on fall hours, Wednesday and Sunday from 1 to 5.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Marketing and Promotions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Museums have created <b>two new education brochures</b> as well as a seasonal education flyer to promote our programs within children's organizations, elementary and secondary schools. Staff continue to deliver these brochures to schools and children's groups in Mississauga which have resulted in an increase in bookings. Electronic mail outs are also sent to leaders and teachers who have previously visited our sites.</li> <li>• The Museums have created wall displays for all three locations to be highlighted in our customer service area. As well, the Museums have designed a new brochure and four promotional banners.</li> <li>• The Museums have created <b>new admission cards</b> in the Culture branding designed for visitors dropping in for guided tours.</li> <li>• Our <b>social media sites</b> (FB, Twitter, RSS Feeds &amp; Flickr) continue to be a strong marketing tool in promoting events hosted by the Culture Division. (705+ followers on Twitter and 369+ followers on FB)</li> <li>• Continued use of <b>free City of Mississauga promotion</b> of special event flyers on library screensavers, Civic Centre elevators, electronic road signs, Intranet homepage and staff web board. Promotional material also sent to all City of Mississauga community centres, libraries, etc. Select materials also distributed through restaurants, coffee shops and bookstores.</li> <li>• Museum staff hosted displays and activities at community events including <b>Halloween Fun Fest in Clarkson Village and the Active Living Fair</b> at</li> </ul>

	<p>River Grove Community Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Museums have appeared on <b>Rogers Television Daytime</b> and Access Peel to promote Historic Hallowe'en Fun, Afternoon Tea and a few of our seasonal pre-registered programs.</li> <li>• <b>Online promotion</b> on various websites and continue to purchase print publication AD's for special events (such as Mississauga Life, SNAP, Today's Parent, etc.)</li> <li>• The Museums of Mississauga are exploring the possibility of joining the <b>Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Cultural Access Pass program</b>, which A gift to each Canadian citizen during their first year of citizenship, the Cultural Access Pass provides complimentary admission to more than 600 of Canada's cultural treasures from coast-to-coast-to-coast. There is more information on this program at the back of the MOMAC agenda.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Exhibits and Collections</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see <b>attached Collections &amp; Exhibit Supervisor</b> reports dated October 4, 2011 and November 1, 2011 in the CASS reports.</li> <li>• On going exhibits include <b>Celebrating Friendship: an Exhibit</b> Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Twinning of Mississauga and Kariya, Japan, through to December 21, 2011 in the Anchorage, Bradley Museum.</li> <li>• Our next feature exhibit in the Anchorage opening in January will celebrate the <b>85th anniversary of Mazo de la Roche's award winning novel, Jalna</b>. The exhibition will explore this ground-breaking novel and how it affected the author's life and the popularity of the series in Canada and around the world. This will also coincide with the release of a feature length NFB/Bravo documentary, "The Mystery of Mazo de la Roche" which was partially filmed at Benares in 2010. The anniversary will also be marked by a lecture by Mazo de la Roche biographer Daniel Bratton on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in the Noel Ryan Auditorium as part of the Heritage Partners lecture series.</li> <li>• Also continued to be displayed in the Benares Visitor Centre until November 30th is <b>Please Be Seated: A History of Chairs</b> which will be replaced with <b>Oriental Influences</b> an exhibition that features many items collected by the Harris family of Benares relating to China and an orphanage supported by Annie Sayers in Korea.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Culture Division Reorganization</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On September 27, 2011, Susan Burt, Director, Culture Division released the <b>"Culture Division Restructuring Report"</b> which included 22 recommendations, several of which directly impact the Museums.</li> <li>• Creation of a Planning Section (Cultural Project Manager, Supervisor, Research and Projects, Public Art Coordinator and proposed Cultural Planner)</li> </ul>

	<p>and a new position, Manager, Cultural Planning to lead this section. For the time being Heritage Planning continues to report to the Director, Culture, but that will eventually move into the Planning section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of an Operations Section (Museums of Mississauga, Meadowvale Theatre, Arts and Culture Programs, and Film and TV Office) and a new position, Manager, Culture Operations to lead this section.</li> <li>• On November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Museums Programming team (Kelly Kubik, Supervisor Museums Community Programs; Fiona Ryder, Supervisor Museum Education Programs; and Merri Fergusson, Program Assistant) moved from the Benares Visitor Centre to the Anchorage, Bradley Museum to create a stronger link between bookings and the Programming team.</li> <li>• Stephanie Meeuwse's job title changed from Exhibit and Collections Coordinator to Collections and Exhibit Supervisor to better reflect her growing responsibilities. On November 7<sup>th</sup> she moved to the office at the Benares Visitor Centre, along with the Collections Assistant, Tracy Oliveira (Lindsay Doren while Tracy is away on maternity leave).</li> <li>• Merri Fergusson's part-time position as Program Assistant is becoming formalized into a contract position (four days a week) as Lead Historic Interpreter. The intent is to strengthen our support of the part-time team of Historic Interpreters, improve communication, and support all aspects of our program delivery. Merri will provide some limited backup support for Isabel Palferro, Museums Coordinator, Customer Service and Administration.</li> <li>• Over the past two years Lobna Thakib' s position as Museums, Administrative Assistant has evolved, with a focus on the Museums Promotions and it has had very positive results. With the reorganization, the position of Museums, Administrative Assistant is being eliminated and a new position, Program Promotions Coordinator is being created. Lobna has been offered this new position, and although she will still be responsible for the Museums' promotions, she will also take on promotions for the rest of the Culture Operations Unit as well. She has moved temporarily to Benares Visitor Centre, and will move to the Central Library with the rest of the Culture Division on December 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Volunteers</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We currently are hosting a <b>Secondary School Co-Op Student</b> from Cawthra Park Secondary School – Tishawna Jones. Tishawna is a great asset to our team and is currently assisting with Museum events and collections work.</li> <li>• <b>Streetsville Historical Society volunteers</b> continue to take a strong lead at the Leslie Log House site providing full coverage for Wednesday public hours, so that Museum staff are only required on Sunday afternoons. They have contributed over 700 hours of volunteer work since the site opened in May.</li> <li>• The <b>Streetsville Horticultural Society</b> volunteers are providing ongoing care for the gardens on the Leslie site. They have donated over 100 hours of</li> </ul>

	<p>volunteer time to this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At their AGM, the <b>Streestville Horticultural Society</b> was presented with a garden sign from the Museums of Mississauga for their efforts in the gardens at the Leslie Log House. Also included on this sign was Sheridan Nurseries for their generous donation of plant material for the site. This sign will be placed in the garden in the spring of 2012.</li> <li>• Over <b>400 volunteer hours have been completed in the Bradley gardens</b> this year, ensuring that the gardens at both the Bradley vegetable and perennial gardens and the gardens surrounding the Anchorage continue to look beautiful.</li> <li>• 30 new volunteers were recruited for the Historic Halloween event held at Benares Historic House on October 30, 2011.</li> <li>• To date <b>3400+ hours of volunteer service</b> has been donated to the Museums of Mississauga in 2011 compared to 2600 hours in 2010</li> <li>• We are working to do a better job of <b>capturing ALL volunteer hours</b> contributed to the Museums. As such, we will be circulating a list at each Friends of the Museums and MOMAC meeting to provide a chance for members to report on the volunteer time they have contributed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Human Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff have been trained to use the <b>new Defibrillator units</b> that are being installed on all three sites.</li> <li>• Currently in the process of interviewing for new part-time Museum Interpreters. Over 90 applicants for 3-4 positions.</li> <li>• Stephanie Meeuwse, Merri Fergusson and Lindsay Doren all attended pre-conference workshops at the recent Ontario Museums Association conference held in Kitchener-Waterloo. Annemarie Hagan attended the complete conference.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Funding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Friends and Partners Committee of the Friends of the Museums</b> continues to make raising sponsorship funds to support Museums events a priority. This year, over \$12,000 in cash has been raised to date, including \$5,000 from the Port Credit Foundation and contributions from HOLCIM, the Clarkson BIA, Meridian Trust and Alice Fahey State Farm Insurance.</li> <li>• The Museums staff submitted their annual <b>request for funding to the Friends of the Museums</b> on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The request is for a total of \$15,000 to cover conservation of a woman's side saddle, funds for ongoing appraisal of the collection, commercial griddle (for Maple Magic pancakes), funding for youth volunteers for Canvasfest 2012, sponsorship of the Heritage Partner's Lecture Series in 2012, support for promotion of educational programs, and event sponsorship.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friends of the Museums and the Museums of Mississauga submitted a request to the <b>Vital Initiatives \$10,000 Grant from the Community Foundation of Mississauga for Mississauga Museums + Art Library Pass Pilot Project</b>. This project will allow residents to explore and enjoy family events and activities at the Museums of Mississauga, as well as other cultural and art events in Mississauga, for free by taking a pass out of their local library. In addition to the free museum pass, participants will receive up to date information about other cultural activities going on for free in the community and encourage them to check them out (ie visit the Art Gallery of Mississauga, Celebration Square activities, community celebrations, etc.).</li></ul> |
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Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011



**museums**  
OF MISSISSAUGA  
shedding light on the past

## MEMO

**DATE:** November 28, 2011  
**TO:** Members of Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)  
**FROM:** Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, Culture Division  
**RE:** Capital Project Update

Please find attached an update on Capital Projects at the three Museums of Mississauga sites.

This report was prepared for the November 28, 2011 MOMAC meeting.

Thank you,

Annemarie Hagan  
Museums Manager  
905-615-4860 ext. 2106



**Update on Capital Projects at the Museums of Mississauga**  
as of November 15, 2011

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
<b>Benares Summer Kitchen Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have found a potential new source of glass for the “floor” that looks to be preferable to what was originally specified by the structural engineer, so there has been a delay in preparing the Request for Quotation.</li> <li>• The glass is Jockimo Crystal Clear – Glass Grit. You can see it in use at Waterloo Region Museum at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5JIRGghRZI">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5JIRGghRZI</a></li> <li>• With change in glass, will need to update the specifications from the Structural Engineer, and have drawings submitted to Ontario Heritage Trust for approval. Expect to prepare RFP in January 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>Facility and Property Maintenance (FPM) Capital Projects at Bradley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week of November 21<sup>st</sup>, work to repair the sanitary line and the drain for the Anchorage Sump Pump ongoing.</li> <li>• Ongoing concerns about roof shingles from the Bradley barn falling off under review by FPM.</li> <li>• Projects for 2012 at the Bradley site include Anchorage main floor refinishing and replacement carpet for second floor offices.</li> <li>• Major project – Anchorage Mechanical System Upgrade in the early planning stages now, working drawings to be completed by end of March, to go to tender in April. Work to be completed by November 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>(FPM) Capital Projects at Benares</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ontario Heritage Trust has approved the request to do repair work to the chimneys at Benares, as well as some painting. Their approval was conditional on the work waiting until the spring, when the temperatures are warmer, so that is when the work is now scheduled.</li> <li>• Benares Visitor Centre has been evaluated and chosen as part of this year's City-wide lighting retrofit. They will be replacing some of the existing bulbs with modern LED counterparts, which offer benefits in energy savings and reliability. This should not affect the existing lighting levels in any way.</li> <li>• On November 5<sup>th</sup> there was some vandalism at Benares, with a Summer Kitchen window damaged; it was quickly secured and repaired. As follow-up there are plans to upgrade the summer kitchen storm windows to be shatter resistant, to match the standard now in place for all other windows on Museum buildings. This will be in the 2013 Capital Project Request.</li> </ul>

Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011



**museums**  
OF MISSISSAUGA  
engage in the past

## MEMO

**DATE:** November 28, 2011

**TO:** Members of Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)

**FROM:** Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, Community Services

**RE:** Request for Funding from Benares Endowment Fund

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At its meeting held on June 21, 2010, the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee recommended (MOMAC-0010-2010) *That the "Principles for the Management of the Benares Funds and the Process for Funding and Managing Projects" as outlined in Appendix 1 of the corporate report dated June 10, 2010 from the Commissioner of Community Services, be adopted.*

The above recommendation was subsequently adopted by General Committee (GC-0518-2010) at its meeting on June 30, 2010, and approved by Council (0159-2010) at its meeting on July 7, 2010. These principles are attached in Appendix 1 of this Memorandum.

An important Benares-related project has come to light, funding for which is being sought from the Benares Endowment Fund.

The project is the conservation and preservation of Mary Magrath Harris' wedding dress. Mary (1859-1954) married Arthur Harris (1843-1932) of Benares at St. Peter's Erindale Church on September 29, 1881 and spent the rest of her life living at Benares. She and Arthur had three children. One of them, Annie (1882-1986), is the mother of the three donors of Benares Historic House: Geoffrey Harris Sayers (1907-1998), Dora Sayers Caro (1915-2005) and Barbara Sayers Larson (born 1920).

Mary's wedding dress is very beautiful, but is currently in disrepair, and cannot be displayed. The cost of conserving and preserving it, so it can be exhibited, is \$4,983. The Museums of Mississauga's operating budget does not include funding for conservation. Since its founding in



2005, the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga has provided significant funding for artifact conservation, including a number of items from Benares. However, considering the significance of this artifact, and the cost for its conservation and preservation, staff is of the opinion that it would be appropriate to consider funding this from the Benares Endowment Funds. The benefactor of the fund, John Henry Cox (d. 1996), was the son of Peter Cox. Peter was married to Arthur Harris' sister Anne (1846 to 1909), and remarried and had Henry after her death.

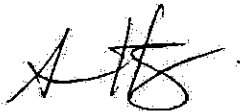
Funding this project through the Benares Endowment Funds meets with the accepted principles, as it is a project "for the purposes of Benares". The conservation of this significant artifact will stabilize its deterioration and allow it to be used in displays, helping to bring to life the story of the Harris family of Benares.

As well, it has been agreed that the original capital amount of the Benares Funds (\$102,000) will not be diminished, except in extenuating circumstances. As of December 31, 2010, The Benares Funds held a total of \$115,048. The \$4,983 expenditure will leave \$110,065, plus any interest earned in 2011, still in the fund.

As per the process approved in June 2010, "Friends of the Museums of Mississauga Board and/or MOMAC, and Museums staff will work together to establish potential priority projects." This project has been identified as a top priority for Museums staff, and has been discussed at the Friends of the Museums November 6, 2011 meeting. At that point, it was agreed that it was appropriate to bring the project forward to MOMAC for consideration of funding through the Benares Endowment Fund.

If funding for this project is endorsed by MOMAC, the next step will be for staff to prepare a formal Corporate Report for the next MOMAC meeting, requesting that the funds be released for this project into a City of Mississauga Capital PN account, and that all necessary By-laws be enacted.

Background Information and justification for seeking funds for the conservation of Mary Harris' Wedding Dress is also attached along with this Memorandum.



Annemarie Hagan  
Museums Manager  
905-615-4860 ext. 2106

Attachments: "Formalization of the Principles of the Management of the Benares Fund"  
(MOMAC 0010-2010 and GC 0518-2010)

Background Information and Justification for Funding the Conservation of  
Mary Harris' Wedding Dress



**Appendix 1 of Corporate Report “Formalization of the Principles for the Management of the Benares Funds MOMAC 0010-2010 and GC 0518-2010**

**Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)**

**Principles for the Management of the Benares Funds and  
the Process for Funding and Managing Projects**

- The “Benares Funds” is an umbrella term that includes the funds held in the Benares Endowment Reserve Fund in the City of Mississauga Miscellaneous Reserve Fund and in the Benares Museum Fund at the Community Foundation of Mississauga. The total value of the Benares Funds will be determined by adding together the amounts in these two funds.
- Any expenditures must be demonstrably “for the purposes of Benares” as indicated by John Henry Cox’s will and the related legal agreements between the City of Mississauga and both the Ontario Heritage Trust and the Community Foundation of Mississauga.
- As per their terms of Reference, the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee is responsible for advising Mississauga City Council on any issues relating to the Benares Endowment Fund.
- The intention is that the original capital amount of \$102,000 will not be diminished, except under extraordinary circumstances.
- The process for requesting funds for expenditure from the Benares Endowment Fund will follow process outlined below.

**Process for Expenditures from Benares Endowment Fund:**

- Friends of the Museums of Mississauga Board and/or MOMAC, and Museum staff will work together to establish potential priority projects.
- A project task force will be created with an appropriate City Staff member as the project manager, and representatives of the Friends of the Museums and/or MOMAC to work together to define the scope, cost estimates, and timelines, including consideration of staff availability and workload issues.
- Staff will prepare a proposal for presentation by the project task force to the Friends of the Museums Board of Directors and to MOMAC.
- (IF this is a capital project which requires approval from the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) under the terms of the Benares Easement Agreement, staff prepare a request for approval to the OHT. Once approved, can move ahead.)
- Once the project has been endorsed by MOMAC, the planning stage is complete, and the project is ready to begin, the Commissioner, Community Services will present a Corporate Report to General Committee recommending that the funds be released for this project into a City of Mississauga Capital PN account, and that all necessary By-laws be enacted.
- The project task force will meet regularly, and the project manager will provide updates to both the Friends of the Museums and MOMAC at appropriate intervals. As a City of Mississauga Project, it will follow all accepted protocols, policies, and bylaws (ie Purchasing By Law).
- At the end of the project, the Project Manger will provide MOMAC and Friends of the Museums with a final report. Any monies remaining at the end of the project to be returned to the Benares Funds.

## Background Information and Justification for Funding this Project

Fabrics, costumes and fibre objects are among the most fragile artifacts. Fabric is made from organic materials and is therefore susceptible to damage from atmospheric pollutants, moisture, biological organisms and sudden changes in the environment. Visible light as well as invisible infrared and ultraviolet radiation can cause irreversible damage. The handling of the garments can also cause wear and tear as well as having them on display.

In the course of treatment the conservator will seek to interfere with the object as little as possible and then only in ways that are reversible. She will analyse the physical properties of the textile and the types of damages that have occurred to develop methods to protect and prolong their existence. This dress has some orange coloured stains on the front and side which have continued to darken and deteriorate with time making them more noticeable. There are numerous small holes caused by moths eating the wool which need to be sewn and supported to prevent them getting larger. There are also some sewing repairs needed to stabilize the various elements of the dress some of which were caused by previous owners trying to let out seams or wearing this dress although it was too small causing pulling and stress on the inside front section of the dress. The dress has most likely not been washed since first being made in 1881 and it has been worn by other family members and displayed at various times. All of these factors contribute to the need for the dress to be cleaned which will be done by hand and will be very time consuming although very beneficial for the dress.

We think this dress should be considered a priority as we are so fortunate to have such a wonderful object in our collection with so much information and documentation on it. It is special! Mary Harris is integral to the history of Benares and within the community in general. We have all the pieces she wore to her wedding at St. Peter's Anglican Church and many pieces of furniture that she brought with her from her family home, the Erindale Estate. Very few things in the collection will have the sentimental and monumental value of this dress.

This treatment will be extensive and therefore is expensive. No one on the Museums team has the expertise or experience to carry out this work. In order to do a Condition Report and develop a cost estimate, the dress had to be handled, which always opens the potential risk of damage or deterioration. As well, it is accepted practice in the field of conservation to pay at least \$250 to have a conservator to do a Condition Report and develop a quote.

Therefore we have pre-selected one conservator to do this work and submit a quote. Based on her excellent references and experience, her professional expertise, appropriate fees for this type of professional work and our previous excellent experience working with her on smaller projects, we chose Caterina Florio, a textile and costume conservator in private practice. She has worked as conservator with several institutions including the Gallery of Costumes in Florence, Italy; Archives of Ontario; Royal Ontario Museum; Bata Shoe Museum; Textile Museum of Canada and most recently TIFF Light Box also as preservation consultant. Caterina currently teaches the course "Preservation of Archival Material" at George Brown College as well as being the Co-coordinator of the Toronto Area Conservation Group. She was also awarded with the inaugural Isabel Bader



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Mary Magrath Harris Wedding Dress (1881)  
Museums of Mississauga Collection 979.6.957



## **Condition Report – Mary Mcgrath Harris Wedding Dress**

**Artifact:** wedding dress and shoes

**Material:** silk, wool, linen, cotton, ostrich-feather, leather and elastic.

**Technique:** satin, twill, muslin, veil, lace

**Date:** late XIX century

**Institution:** Mississauga Museums

### **Technical Description:**

One-piece dress with a train and a pair of shoes made for the wedding of Mary Harris (nee Mcgrath). Cream wool twill with cream satin decorative inserts for the dress and cream satin for the shoes.

Open front dress with fitted bodice, high fitted neckline, long sleeves and trained skirt. The front decoration in gathered satin starts from the bib to create the central panel of the skirt, which has also lateral panels with folder inserts. The shoulders are embellished with satin puffs. Lace and ostrich-feathers (later addition) are applied at the end of the sleeves. Elaborate border with three layers of gathered silk, edging and pleating. Bodice lined in linen. Skirt lined in muslin, border lined with several layers of starched linen.

Ankle boots in cream satin with elastic band on each side.

### **Pre-treatment Condition:**

#### Dress

- Alterations along the back sides of the bodice; inner buttons of the bib missing; inner closing hooks of the bodice added later and ribbon holding the eyelets is detached;
- Overall soiling, with highest concentration along the train border;
- Several brown stains of different sizes on the bodice (front and back), along the front of the skirt and on “proper right” (PR) sleeve;
- Numerous losses along entire wool fabric (moths);
- Tear along the inner linen lining of the bodice;
- Bib detached, external seam partially missing;
- Puff on “proper left” (PL) partially detached along the altered seam; puff on PR detached at the back;
- Lace at the end of sleeves out of shape and dirty;
- Silk pleating on the border of the skirt dehydrated and out of shape. Little brown stains along all the silk pleating (degeneration of the starch) and in some spots in correspondence to the brown stains there are holes (“eaten through” fabric);
- Wool edging dehydrated and stiff (due to soil and dirt deposits).

#### Shoes

The structure is solid.

- Elastic bands completely loose;
- Brown stain on both left and right counters (degeneration of construction glue? or of leather used as support – red rot?) and tide lines on both heels;

- Silk of the upper dehydrated;
- Series of light brown stains on the tip of both shoes (degeneration of the treatment of the fabric?).

***Treatment Proposal:***

- Documentation (written and photographic).

**Dress**

- Surface cleaning on front and back, and recto and verso, focused on the train, pleats and bodice;
- Localized wet cleaning to eliminate brown stains;
- Eventually cover the larger and more visually disturbing stains with appropriate fabric, if wet cleaning is not successful;
- Secure detached areas and secure tear on inner lining of bodice with crepline support and couching stitch;
- Cleaning and vaporization of lace at the end of sleeves;
- Secure losses on wool fabric with appropriate fabric and couching stitch;
- Vaporization of areas in need along the pleated border to re-hydrate fabric and reshape them.

**Shoes**

- Surface cleaning;
- Covering the stained counter with appropriate fabric (visual treatment), if silk is able to support it.

***Note:***

After the treatment it is suggested to keep the dress in an appropriate size box made of acid free board; it is suggested also to provide a custom support for the shoes, for both storage and display.

9-9

Caterina Florio  
Textile and Costume Conservator  
16 Wallace Ave.  
M6H 1T5 Toronto, Ont.  
416 838 5626  
caterina\_florio@yahoo.it

Stephanie Meeuwse  
Collections & Exhibit Coordinator  
Museums of Mississauga  
1620 Orr Rd.  
Mississauga, L5J 4T2

**BUDGET ESTIMATE**  
for the treatment of Mary Harrys' wedding dress

73 hours labor at \$65 per hour	\$ 4745
materials	\$ 238
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4983</b>

Please note that half of the total fee is due before the beginning of the treatment and the remainder upon delivery.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.  
Sincerely

Caterina Florio

Museums of Mississauga  
 Advisory Committee  
**NOV 28 2011**

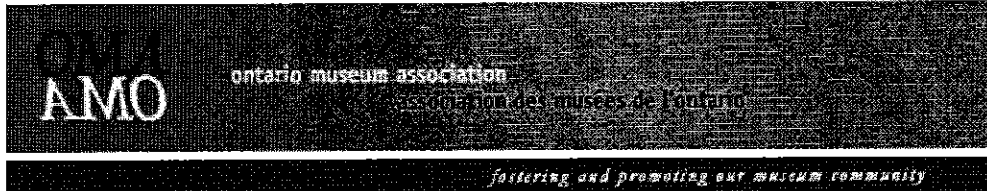
Ontario Museum Association (OMA)

museumsontario.com

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**OMA e-News Alert: Museum closures**



**OMA e-News Alert**  
 Toronto - November 14, 2011

**Citizens line up to save Toronto's heritage.**

On November 13, 2011, City of Toronto Councillor for Ward 21, Joe Mihevc, and author and poet Michael Redhill joined over 200 heritage supporters at Montgomery's Inn to protest the potential closing of this heritage site and three other Toronto museums.

According to Councillor Mihevc (read the Nov. 13 media release), "40% of the museums operated by the city are scheduled to be closed as part of the city's budget cutting measures." These include the Zion Schoolhouse, Gibson House, the Market Gallery and Montgomery's Inn. Councillor Mihevc, Mr. Redhill and the group of heritage supporters lined up before Montgomery's Inn urging Torontonians to remind city council "that it should be bragging about the city's heritage and its history, not erasing it."



Heritage supporters line up in front of Montgomery's Inn with Toronto Councillor Joe Mihevc and author Michael Redhill.

"Museums are community hubs. They create a sense of belonging and community." These words from Councillor Mihevc came as he urged city council to seek alternatives to the abrupt closure of important local historic sites: "Given the value of these assets to Torontonians, we want to help find a way to keep them open to the public. We need to see if there are ways to help them raise more money or operate in a more cost effective manner."

Councillor Mihevc reminded Torontonians that the city's "collection of historic museums is the repository of our collective heritage... Destroy them and you destroy the DNA of who we are and how we got here. I urge all Torontonians to contact the Mayor and their Councillor to save our heritage and save our city."

[Click here for the petition circulated by the Friends of Toronto Museums.](#)

[back to top](#)

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Toronto Councillor Joe Mihevc addresses the media and heritage supporters at Montgomery's Inn on Sunday, November 13.

Author and poet Michael Redhill echoed Councillor Mihevc's words in a speech delivered to supporters and the media: "Imagine if you woke up one morning and your whole past was erased." These opening words served as a caution to Torontonians that unless they rise up, several significant historic sites will disappear. [Read Michael Redhill's full speech.](#)



Author and poet Michael Redhill addresses the media and heritage supporters. Photo credit: Maurice Dalzot for the Ontario Museum Association

In an open letter to Torontonians, John Bessai of the Friends of Toronto Museums calls the proposed closures "an assault on all of us and our civic identity." Bessai states that museums and heritage sites "serve as community hubs for all kinds of events including children's programs, language training for new residents, farmers markets, and special events. Inside each museum is a host of objects, many original to these 19th century buildings, carefully preserved by Torontonians for many generations." Read John Bessai's *Urgent Letter to Torontonians*.

Read the coverage:

[City museum closures loom](#) by Christopher Hume  
Toronto Star, November 12

[Save Toronto's museums: Protesters](#) by Tom Godfrey  
Toronto Sun, November 13

[City museums at risk, despite denials, Mihevc says](#) by Patrick White  
The Globe and Mail, November 13

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#### **The Arts Advocate - Vol XVII, Issue 5**

By special arrangement with The Arts Advocate, read about the OMA and Ontario's political scene.

"Minister Michael Chan, one of the few ministers in the smaller Ontario cabinet to retain his preelection post, is back at Tourism and Culture. Already up to speed on his ministry's files and challenges, he has a head start on his colleagues as he prepares for the next session of the Ontario Legislature. It begins 21 November."

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**Ontario Museum Association**

"Ontario museums are looking to the provincial government to sustain investment in various museums programs, particularly the Community Museum Operating Grants. At the same time, there is a growing desire to engage the Ministry of Tourism and Culture in a dialogue to rethink the various museum support programs. The sector needs the ministry's help to better address challenges around innovation, exhibit renewal and other museum-specific issues."

[Read the full edition of The Arts Advocate.](#)

For more information on The Arts Advocate Report, visit [www.artsadvocate.com](http://www.artsadvocate.com)

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# New Waterloo museum tells powerful story of man who escaped slavery

Museums of Mississauga  
Advisory Committee  
NOV 28 2011

Luisa d'Amato, The Record, Tuesday, November 15, 2011

The first thing I saw at the new Waterloo Region Museum, which opened on the weekend, was an exhibit on the men and women who came here to escape slavery in the United States.

John Little was born a slave in North Carolina in the early 1800s. Somehow, he and his wife, Eliza, travelled secretly to freedom in Ontario. They settled in an area called the Queen's Bush, including what is now Wellesley Township.

In a museum full of treasures, their story is the most moving to me, for two reasons.

First, because the story itself is so powerful. "I thought I ought to take hold and work and go ahead, to show to others that there is a chance for the coloured man in Canada to show the spirit of a man and a desire to improve his condition," Little wrote.

There are other immigrants' stories, with other reasons to come to Canada: a better life, an education, marriage. But freedom is even more fundamental than these.

The second reason I was so glad to see this exhibit was that it marks a sympathetic, peaceful ending to the political struggle that erupted a couple of years ago between some museum organizers and the local black community.

The black community had been given the painful explanation that their story couldn't be told unless there were artifacts — physical things like letters, or belongings from the settlers — to be put on display.

But most of the escaped slaves were illiterate and couldn't write. And life in Queen's Bush was very difficult, so few stayed. In 1851, there were 237 blacks in Wellesley and Peel townships. But just 10 years later, most had left Wellesley, with their belongings. They had cleared land and grew crops, but weren't able to make enough money to keep up their land payments.

John Little and his wife had bought a farm here, but sold it in 1862 and moved to Haiti. Many others moved to Elgin County, where a group of white abolitionist missionaries had arranged a colony for them with more support.

I was at a meeting of the black community two years ago where the grief at the loss of the physical markers of history that most other groups have — a journal, a farming tool, an apron — was palpable. Even more intense was their distress that because much of their history had disappeared, their story might become invisible too.

But the museum has worked out a way to give voice and dignity to this moment in history. "No known artifacts exist from the settlers from the Queen's Bush," a sign advises.

Yet there is a notice from North Carolina from a man named Little, offering \$100 reward for the return of two escaped slaves. It "may" refer to John Little, we're told. And there is a pristine new pair of shoes, held together with tiny wooden pegs, a reproduction of footwear that would have been made in New England and worn by those escaped slaves.

There are many fascinating exhibits in the museum: A huge steam engine that powered the manufacture of rubber at the Kaufman Rubber factory at Victoria and King streets. A photo of the first time King Street was lit up by electricity, in 1910. Postcards home from a soldier in the First World War, each one saying simply: "I am OK."

But in this place where you can so easily lose yourself — and simultaneously find yourself — in these rich, varied and intertwined stories, the most powerful things of all, for me, are John Little's words, and those perfectly clean shoes that are like the ones he might have worn.