



AGENDA

COLLECTIONS AND STORAGE SUBCOMMITTEE Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee (MOMAC)

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA
www.mississauga.ca

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012 - 7:00 PM

Benares Visitor Centre
1507 Clarkson Rd. N., Mississauga, ON

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

STAFF: Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager
Stephanie Meeuwse, Museums Collections & Exhibit Supervisor
Susan Burt, Director, Culture Division
Andrew Whitemore, Manager, Culture Operations
Karen Morden, Legislative Coordinator

Contact: Karen Morden, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk
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CALL TO ORDER

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommend Approval

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Review and Update from Susan Burt, Director, Culture Division

Ms. Burt will provide an update with respect to a Corporate Report, dated August 20, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services, entitled Update on the Search for a Location for the Artifact Preservation Centre and Future Museum. Additionally, she will speak to the current status on discussions with potential partners, strategy and broad financial viability/implications of various storage options.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report dated August 20, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services, entitled "Update on the Search for a Location for the Artifact Preservation and Future Museum" be received for information.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – June 5, 2012

Recommend Receipt

3. Update from Collections & Exhibit Supervisor

Report dated September 11, 2012 from Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Supervisor.

Recommend Receipt

4. Verbal Update from Museums Manager

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager, will provide a verbal update.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Corporate Report : Update on the Search for a Location for the Artifact Preservation Centre and Future Museum

RECOMMEND RECEIPT

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING(S)

Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee – Monday, September 24, 2012, 6:00
PM, Benares Visitor Centre

Collections and Storage Subcommittee – Tuesday, October 2, 2012, 7:00 PM, Benares
Visitor Centre

ADJOURNMENT



Corporate Report

Clerk's Files

Originator's
Files



SEP 11 2012

DATE: August 20, 2012

TO: Chair and Members of the Collection and Storage Subcommittee
Meeting Date: September 11, 2012

FROM: Paul A. Mitcham, P. Eng., MBA
Commissioner of Community Services

SUBJECT: **Update on the Search for a Location for the Artifact Preservation Centre and Future Museum**

RECOMMENDATION: That the report dated August 20, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services, titled "Update on the Search for a Location for the Artifact Preservation Centre and Future Museum" be received for information.

**REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- As per Council recommendation GC-0237-2011, staff are reviewing options to locate a 1.9 ha (4.7ac) site for an Artifact Preservation Centre and future museum.
- The University of Toronto at Mississauga and the Peel District School Board have expressed interested in partnering with the City for these facilities.
- Staff recently learned there are local rental options at facilities specifically designed to preserve artifacts.
- Currently the City's forecast 2012 – 2021 capital budget indicates the Artifact Centre will be designed in 2014 and built in 2015/16.
- The actual location and start date for this project is dependent on finalizing any partnerships agreements and the availability of municipal funding given the budget shortfall for future capital projects.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 11, 2011 meeting of Council, recommendation GC-0237-2011 was passed directing staff to “assess the City’s inventory of properties and to recommend the best location for a 1.9 ha (4.7ac) site which can accommodate both the Artifact Preservation Centre and a potential future public museum....” Since that time Culture staff have reviewed City owned vacant sites with colleagues from both the Parks and Realty Services areas to assess potential opportunities for these facilities.

In addition, upon learning about the City’s interest in obtaining an Artifact Preservation Centre and future museum, both the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) and the Peel District School Board (PDSB) have indicated interest in partnering with the City for these facilities.

PRESENT STATUS:Opportunities to Use City Owned Land

Staff have identified three (3) parks within the city as well as the lands along Ninth Line as potential sites for the Artifact Centre and future museum. However staff are concerned the park options are in isolated areas. These locations will not provide the visibility and direct access required for a successful museum, based on the assumption it will eventually be built on the same site.

The opportunity to locate the Artifact Centre along the Ninth Line Corridor will be influenced by a review of these lands conducted through Planning and Building over the next few years. This will include storm and water management and land requirements for the Highway 407 Transitway. Depending on the outcome of the review, these issues may present significant costs and time challenges for the Artifact Centre project.

Partnership Opportunities

Based on the interest expressed by UTM and PDSB, staff met with representatives of both organizations to explore potential partnership opportunities. In both cases these discussions are on-going. At this time there is no reason to believe that a partnership with one of these organizations eliminates the opportunity to have the other involved as well.

UTM proposes to provide the land at the Springbank site on Mississauga Road at no charge in exchange for the City building an additional 700 square meters (7,500 square feet) on the Artifact Centre. This additional space will allow UTM to house anthropology and biology artifacts. The cost of an addition this size is approximately \$3 million. UTM does not have budgeted funds to contribute to this cost, but is willing to fundraise and seek additional grant opportunities to offset them. They estimate it will take another few years to actually get this funding in place.

The PDSB proposes to provide land at Britannia Farm adjacent to the Canover Barn as well as the Barn itself in exchange for increasing the size of the Artifact Centre to house Board documents. The PDSB cannot contribute financially to the construction of the additional space.

Notwithstanding the financial challenge of increasing the size of the Artifact Centre, there are also other issues such as zoning restrictions and parking requirements to be considered. Feedback from Planning and Building staff indicates there does not appear to be zoning or parking concerns with the UTM proposal. However, there are a number of restrictions on the Britannia Farm lands that will require additional work to resolve.

Museum Quality Rental Facilities

Recently, staff became aware of two museum/gallery quality rental facilities in Mississauga where artifacts from organizations such as the Royal Ontario Museum and the Art Gallery of Ontario are store from time to time. Understandably these facilities do not actively advertise their existence due to the nature of their clients and their assets.

Staff toured one of these facilities and received initial financial and operational information which indicates this option is worth further investigation.

COMMENTS:

In order to begin to design the Artifact Centre, it is imperative to know the site location and who, if anyone, the City is partnering with and their needs and expectations of the facility. A partnership agreement will require execution of legal documents and approvals from various

governing bodies and agencies, depending on the actual partners involved. Staff have concerns about the ability for this to occur before the end of 2014, the current year indicated in the forecast budget for design of the Centre. Delays in this part of the project will result in the need to re-evaluate the proposed construction dates.

In addition to the challenge of determining the best location to house the City's artifacts, there are looming financial challenges for the entire City budget which may impact this project.

Based on the projected budget in the Lundholm feasibility report for the Artifact Centre, \$6.8 million was submitted as part of the City's 2012 – 2021 forecast capital budget. The estimated \$4 million remaining to fund the Centre is anticipated to come from the federal government's Cultural Spaces grant program or another similar option. The 2012 budget submission anticipates the Artifact Centre will be designed in 2014 and built over the course of 2015 and 2016. These same timelines are included in the preliminary budget submission for next year.

However, during City Council's deliberation of the 2012 budget, it became clear existing requests in the City's capital budget outstrip available funding, including reasonable levels of debt, by \$315 million. Consequently, capital budget requests for future years, including the proposed Artifact Centre, will need to be reconsidered based on funding priorities. This will involve many difficult decisions including the need to consider revised timelines and alternate funding sources and approaches for projects scheduled in future years.

Staff will continue to investigate an appropriate and cost effective option for the Artifact Centre that meets the need of the museums of Mississauga. This will include finalizing the analysis of all City owned sites available, continuing to explore partnership opportunities with both UTM and the PDSB, and exploring the viability of renting space in an appropriate existing facility. In addition, staff will consider the possibility of renting space until such time as the City has accumulated a significant number of artifacts to justify a standalone facility. This in turn may provide additional time to develop partnership agreements and seek other revenues sources.

As part of the analysis, staff will consider:

- Length of time to realize the facility;
- Cost of the facility, including capital and ongoing operating costs;
- Location providing high visibility and access for the public as a future museum site; and
- The pros and cons of having two separate sites for the artifact centre and the museum if necessary.

Once staff have completed this analysis, a report will be forwarded to the Collection and Storage Subcommittee for review and input. In the meantime, staff look forward to continuing to work with the Collection and Storage Subcommittee on collection goals and processes.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not applicable at this time.

CONCLUSION: As per Council recommendation GC-0237-2011, staff continue to research possible locations for an Artifact Preservation Centre and future museum. This includes ongoing partnership discussions with the University of Toronto at Mississauga and the Peel District School Board. Staff are also investigating opportunities to rent appropriate museum quality space as an alternative or interim solution to constructing a new centre.

Notwithstanding the City's \$315 million shortfall against proposed projects in the ten year capital budget, staff will continue to pursue alternate funding sources and cost effective options to meet the preservation needs of the museums.



Paul A. Mitcham, P. Eng., MBA
Commissioner of Community Services

Prepared By: Susan Burt, Director, Culture Division

SEP 11 2012

**Collections & Exhibit Supervisor Report to
Collections and Storage Sub-Committee Meeting September 4, 2012**

New Donations:

- Seal embosser from Town of Mississauga transferred from City Clerk's Office
- Judy Tutty donated a Foley food mill and food scales
- Peter Wilkens donated some tools that complement our existing collection.
- A metal helmet and a bike ring were donated by Long Branch Foundry.

Conservation:

- Ongoing work by Miriam Harris
- Mary Harris' wedding dress delivered to Caterina Florio for conservation

Exhibits: Out-Reach Displays

- Photographic display on Civic Centre Anniversary installed at Courtney Park Library
- In the Bathroom: Past & Present installed at Meadowvale Library for month of August
- Central Library cases on third floor changed to a Royals Memorabilia exhibit (both cases)
- Council Reception displays changed to Clarkson and WWI.
- Communications Case in Great Hall at Civic changed to reflect recent Kariya visit
- Floral Ceramics installed at Streetsville Library for months of September & October
- History of Butter Making display installed at Churchill Meadows Library

Exhibits: In-House Displays

- Jalna Revisited: The 85th Anniversary of Mazo de la Roche's Award Winning Novel was removed from Bradley Museum. Portions of it were installed at Benares Visitor Centre August 27th.
- The YCW summer student, Cory Crabtree, completed his position as Exhibit Assistant on August 28th. He created and uploaded 12 on-line exhibits and 15 "Artifact of the Month" pod-casts. He also created a manual for use in the future and assisted with installation of exhibits.
- Working with teacher from Stephen Lewis Secondary School to facilitate her students creating a First Nations themed exhibit for display in the Anchorage in November.

Storage:

- Tracy & I worked on clearing out second level of barn to accommodate move in the fall during installation of new HVAC system.
- Moved half of Bradley collection to Benares to facilitate installation of new Liebert HVAC system in the Anchorage Storage.

Other:

- Prepared Draft grant application for Museums and Technology grant which was submitted August 20th. The grant is to purchase new database software, Past Perfect, and to implement bar coding in our storage areas.