



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

**MINUTES**

**HERITAGE COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Lower Boardroom**

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Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. in the Lower Boardroom at City Hall.

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chair: Councillor J. Morse,  
A. Cartwright,  
D. Kellet,  
E. Purchase, and  
F. Sangris.

The following Committee members were absent:

Mayor M. Heyck,  
S. Irlbacher-Fox,  
K. Luce, and  
D. Finch.

The following members of Administration were in attendance:

W. Yu,  
J. Larsen, and  
L. Alexandra.

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**Call to Order**

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

2. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**Approval of Agenda**

3. E. Purchase moved,  
F. Sangris seconded,

**That the Agenda be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



### **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

4. D. Kellet moved,  
E. Purchase seconded,

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on March 16, 2016 be approved.**

### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Letters of Appreciation for Departing Members**

5. It was confirmed that letters of appreciation had been prepared for former Committee members M. Vadik and D. Ritchie, in recognition of their contributions to the Committee. It was noted that, going forward, letters for departing Committee members will be prepared and signed by the Chair.

**Action: A letter for departing Committee member R. McKeown will be prepared by Administration and signed by the Chair.**

### **Discussion Regarding Vacant Positions**

6. It was noted that vacant Committee positions are posted on the website and in the City's Capital Update. There was inquiry as to whether committee vacancies are advertised through the City's social media; Administration noted that they would look into this.

**Action: Administration to look into whether vacant committee positions are advertised through the City's social media platforms.**

### **Design of Heritage Sign Banner**

7. It was relayed to the Committee that a sign design is in progress, and will be sent to the Committee for their review as soon as it is available.

**Action: Administration will send the sign design to the Committee when it is available.**

### **The Tale of a Town**

8. Tale of a Town is a national theatre and media initiative touring communities across Canada to gather and share main street stories, leading up to Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017. Committee noted that they will be coming to Yellowknife in late September. Committee discussed various things that Heritage Committee can do:

- recruit people or groups to tell stories,
- approach Avens and Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) Elders,
- engage Mining Heritage Society, and
- provide assistance with housing for event organizers.

Committee noted that Mr. Sangris will be point of contact for YKDFN.



### **Incorporating YKDFN history within Yellowknife**

9. Committee noted that up until this point the Committee has not focused on First Nations' history within the community and that they should develop a long term plan. Committee further noted that Mr. Sangris will provide a map with locations of event and points of history have taken place.

#### **Sacred Tree**

Committee stated that area situated at the mouth of the Yellowknife River has exceptional value to the Yellowknives Dene. Committee further stated that this is in fact a sacred site where Yamoosha chased a giant beaver down the river, pushed aside a blockage at the mouth of the river and planted his shovel in the ground. This "shovel" is the sacred tree on the western banks of the river, and to this day the Yellowknives Dene pay their respects at this tree by making-offerings. Committee advised that this site should be recognized or designated as a heritage site and that Mr. Sangris will work with Administration on application.

- A. Cartwright moved,  
D. Kellet seconded,

**That Committee begin a process of designating a sacred tree situated by the Yellowknife River as heritage resource.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Back Bay Cemetery**

Committee noted that the Back Bay Cemetery is a "designated" Heritage Resource under the City's Heritage By-law No. 4540 and Zoning By-law No. 4404. Committee further noted that it is a cemetery of approximately 35 grave sites within Jackfish Draw along the south bank of Jackfish Creek and adjacent to Back Bay. Committee stated that the site is of archeological, cultural, spiritual or other significance to YKDFN; however, there are no plaques on the site. Committee further stated that Yellowknives Dene First Nations could provide some historic facts to be used on the plaques.

- E. Purchase moved,  
A. Cartwright seconded,

**That Committee engages with Yellowknives Dene First Nation to determine location of heritage plaques in Old Town.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Heritage Share**

10. Mr. Purchase noted that City of Thunder Bay has Annual Arts & Heritage Awards. Mr. Purchase further noted that nominations are for people who contributed to heritage and arts. Mr. Purchase relayed that the achievements and contributions of local artists, cultural professionals, organizations and businesses were celebrated at the City of Thunder Bay's Annual Arts & Heritage Awards on March 31, 2016.



11. Mr. Kellet noted that it is 30 year anniversary for the 1986 World Exposition on Transportation and Communication (Expo '86) - a World's Fair held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from Friday, May 2 until Monday, October 13, 1986. Mr. Kellet further noted that NWT pavilion was one of the most popular pavilions at Expo 86. Mr. Kellet relayed that he is on treasure hunt for memorabilia from the N.W.T. pavilion at the Vancouver event. Mr. Kellet stated that the items he collects will go into an exhibit he's curating at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting**

12. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 2016. Committee requested that the following items be included to next agenda:
- Reclaiming the Mine Ferry; and
  - Art Show Criteria/Judging Criteria.

### **Adjournment**

13.

**That the meeting be adjourned at 1:02 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

SJ/la