



ARNPRIOR

Town of Arnprior

Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, March 3rd, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

**Location: Arnprior & District Museum – 35 Madawaska St.,
Arnprior ON.**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Land Acknowledgement**
4. **Adoption of Agenda**
5. **Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**
6. **Adoption of Previous Minutes**
 - a) **Committee Minutes – November 4th, 2024** (Page 1- 6)
7. **Presentations / Delegations**
8. **Matters Tabled / Deferred / Unfinished Business**
9. **Staff Reports (by Department)**
 - a) **Curator's Report**, Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator (Page 7-17)
10. **New Business**
 - a) Discussion Item – **Reviewing Cultural Plans** (Page 18)
 - b) Roundtable Discussion – Action Items and Questions from Previous Meeting
 - c) Roundtable Discussion – Connecting with the Community
11. **Adjournment**

The agenda is made available in the Clerk's Office at the Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior and on the Town's [Website](#). Persons wishing to receive a print item on the agenda by email, fax, or picked up by hand may request a copy by contacting the Clerk's Office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1840. The Agenda and Agenda items will be prepared in an accessible format upon request.

Full Distribution: Council, CAO, Town Staff, Committee Members



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**Minutes of the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting
November 4th, 2024 at 6:30 PM
Council Chambers – Town Hall**

Committee and Staff Attendance

Committee Members Present:

Dan Lynch, County Councillor
Leslie Ann Hook, Committee Member
Jennifer McGuire, Committee Member
Jo Ann Pecaskie, Committee Member

Town Staff Present:

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture /
Curator
Kelley Jaros, A/ MEDO
Oliver Jacob, Deputy Clerk

Committee Members Absent:

Michael Bradley, Chair
Chris Couper, Vice Chair
Gaganpal Singh Bhasin, Committee Member

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, committee members agreed that County Councillor Lynch act as Meeting Chair for the duration of the November 4th, 2024 committee meeting.

1. Call to Order

Dan Lynch, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM and welcomed those present.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, with all Members of the Committee being present except Michael Bradley, Chris Couper and Gaganpal Singh Bhasin.

3. Land Acknowledgment

Acting Chair Dan Lynch asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

“I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.”

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution Number 019-24
Moved by Jennifer McGuire
Seconded by Leslie Ann Hook

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting dated Monday, November 4th, 2024 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 020-24
Moved by Leslie Ann Hook
Seconded by Jennifer McGuire

Be It Resolved That the minutes for the October 7th, 2024 Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Resolution Carried

7. Presentations/ Delegations

a) Curator's Report

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator, provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the activities of the Arnprior and District Museum during the month of October 2024 and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator, asked committee members to read the recommended Culture Plans and supporting documents provided in the presentation and to be prepared to discuss their observations at the March 2025 committee meeting.
- Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator, explained her plan for developing the Town's first Culture Plan and its use of local consultants who will be working together on an art-based approach to data collection.

Resolution Number 021-24
Moved by Jennifer McGuire
Seconded by Leslie Ann Hook

That the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee support the Town's continued membership in the Creative Cities Network of Canada (CCNC) and utilization of the Culture Statistics Strategy (CSS) tool in the 2025 calendar year.

Resolution Carried

b) 2025 Programming at the Arnprior and District Museum

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator, provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the planned 2025 programming and activities at the Arnprior and District Museum and responded to questions.

8. Matters Tabled / Deferred / Unfinished Business

Following the discussion at the last meeting, committee members discussed the Town's approach to recognizing and celebrating religious events (i.e. Diwali) and noted that this item is on the agenda as Item 10(b).

9. Staff Reports

None

10. New Business

a) Setting Committee Priorities

Oliver Jacob, Deputy Clerk, reviewed the Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- Committee members would like to be involved with the development of the Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Strategy which would be focused more internally to the Town and its staff / service delivery. The Deputy Clerk advised that the process would likely be undertaken with a consultant and that the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee and the Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee would be jointly involved as stakeholders throughout the process.

- Committee members shared some ideas with regard to showcasing Indigenous stories and histories, including as part of the Waterfront Trail and renovations to Robert Simpson Park in the coming years.
- Committee members were interested in exploring relationship building with local Indigenous Peoples and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. The Manager of Culture / Curator noted that it would be helpful for senior staff, CDAC members and Members of Council to have training in how to build nation-to-nation relationships and conduct dialogue with Indigenous communities.

Resolution Number 022-24
 Moved by Leslie Ann Hook
 Seconded by Jo Ann Pecaskie

That the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee recommends to Council that training be procured for Town staff, CDAC members and Council on fostering nation-to-nation-discussions with Indigenous Peoples.

Resolution Carried

- It was noted that there is a desire to hear more from the Annprior community and that listening sessions may be a helpful tool to connect with diverse community members and how to better understand their needs and desires from the Town.
- It was also shared that a priority should be the identification of diverse community leaders, connection with cultural communities and building relationships that strengthen our ability to work together moving forward.

b) Approaching Communications with a Cultural Lens Discussion,

Kelley Jaros, A/ Marketing and Economic Development Officer (MEDO), provided an overview of the role of a communications strategy and invited feedback from committee members.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- It was noted that it will be important to identify target audiences, communication channels and engagement methods through consultation with the community. Understanding who is at risk of being excluded is key to reaching everyone, particularly those in diverse communities.

- Committee members agreed that it is important to personalize marketing messaging and center the person in advertising materials (i.e. use photos of local residents, use inclusive language, use quotations and personal anecdotes).
- Communication channels should include both print and online avenues to ensure that those who are not online can access the same information (i.e. posters, mailings, radio).
- It may be helpful to host a Town Hall session/ community meeting on Culture and Diversity in Spring 2025 to listen to the community. Training would need to be provided to CDAC members to provide facilitation for community groups / focus groups.

c) 2025 Cultural Night Market – Selection Criteria Discussion

Oliver Jacob, Deputy Clerk, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, attached as Appendix A and forming part of these minutes, regarding the past practices on Cultural Night Market selection and encouraged committee members to share their feedback for the 2025 event.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- Committee members agreed that applications submitted by those who self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking group should be provided with priority in the selection process. However, it was noted that vendor applications will be brought forward to the March 2025 committee meeting for discussion and additional criteria will be discussed at that stage (if needed).
- It was noted that specific language should be considered to ensure that cultural appropriation and offensive language are not used for any vendors, performers or consultants related to the Cultural Night Market event.
- It was noted that it may be helpful to reach out to the County of Renfrew to engage with their vendors at the Taste of the Valley events.
- Committee members discussed the importance of providing flexibility for performer selection and the Manager of Culture / Curator noted that she is working with Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities (MASC) to identify potential performers and consultants.

d) Roundtable Discussion

None

11. Adjournment

Resolution Number 023-24

Moved by Jennifer McGuire

Seconded by Jo Ann Pecaskie

That the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee adjourn at 9:43 PM.

Resolution Carried



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• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •

Curator's Report

Emily Stovel
Manager of Culture/Curator

March 3, 2025



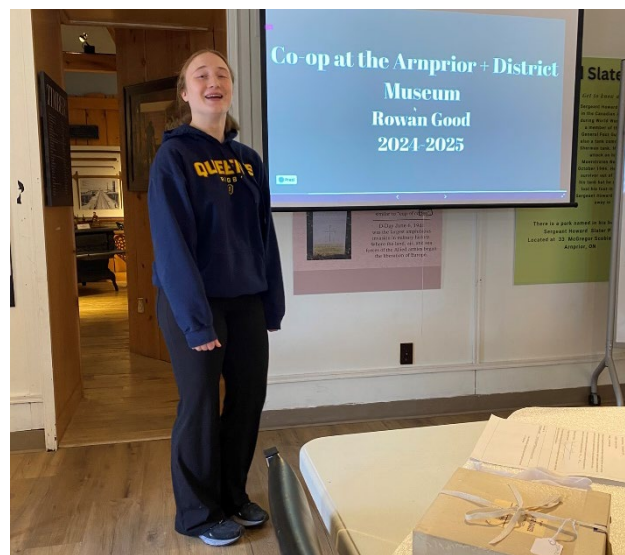
Community Connections

- Collaboration with L'Arche Arnprior
- Collaboration with the Opportunity Shop: Holiday Fair week of November 11th
- Noche Latina, November 23rd
- Meet and Greet with Arnprior Cares, November 27th
- Programming at Islandview, December 5th
- Community meeting on Public Archaeology, December 7th



Community Connections

- Spinning and Weaving workshop testing, January 9th & February 6th
- AJ Charbonneau Parent Council Consoles, Crafts, and Chapters January 17th
- Winter Carnival (January 18th) art activation
- Girl Guide program, February 8th
- Two ADHS CooP students and one Nipissing University Student Placement
- Four new High School volunteers

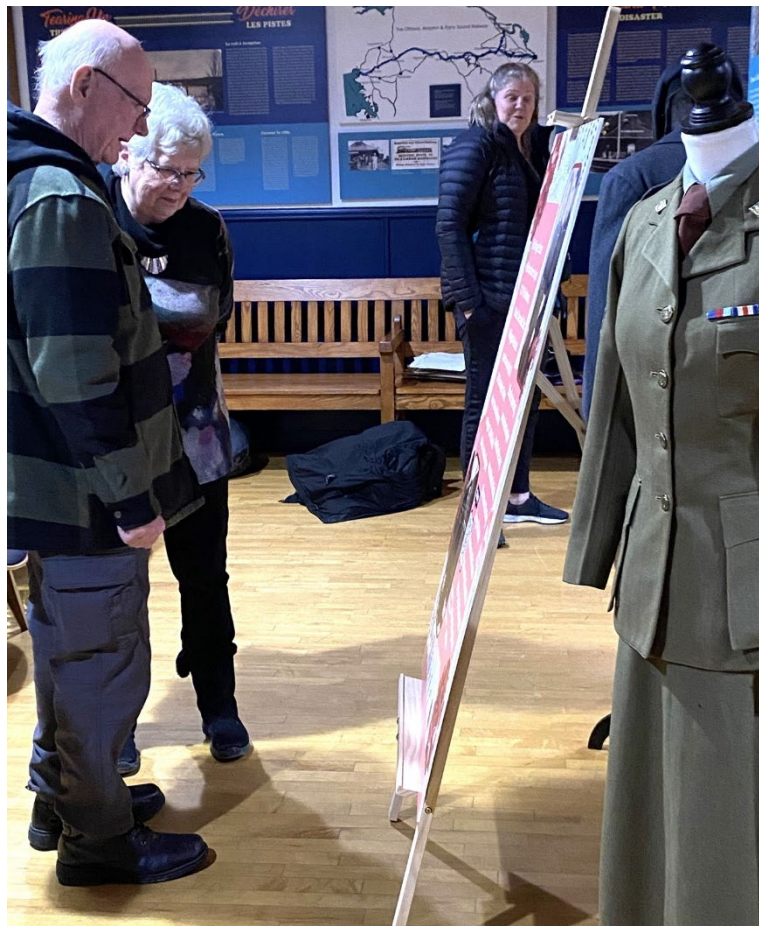


Exhibits and Programming

- Seven school tours finalized, four in partnership with Legacy of Hope Foundation and a fifth in partnership with Teach your Parents Climate Change Art project (Ottawa/India).
- #CultureInArnprior Remembrance Day screening of the film “Fruit Machine”
- Lego League Team “Controlled Chaos” placed 9th at Tournament November 30th



Exhibits and Programming



- WWII exhibit in partnership with ADHS Grade 10 History Class
- Cultural Night Market: performer recruitment, building surveys, and calls for creatives and vendors.
- 2025 Programming finalized
- Three community exhibit collaboration underway

Community Belongings

- Online portal now live:
<https://www.arnprior.ca/en/recreation-and-culture/exhibits-and-collections.aspx>
- Scanned 500 slides from the Museum and Archive with the support of a local volunteer
- Reworking the Museum's Collection Policy in partnership with community



Organizational Planning

- New Museum Education Coordinator hired
- Preliminary visitation results: 9600 visits in 2024
- Extensive planning for records retention, digital and paper
- Young Canada Works grants submitted
- Participated in Heritage Day, February 18th, Ottawa Town Hall
- Organizing 20 years of programming supplies



Facilities



- Electrical circuit map to support planning
- Architectural conversations about the new fire escape
- Recognition of the “D.A. Gillies” building on the National Historic Register
- Planning for image installation in stairway

Next Up

- Marketing 2025 Programs
- School Tours
- Cultural Night Market Planning
- Museum Strategic Plan
- Almonte Scouting Visit
- WWI Digital Exhibit



#CultureInArnprior
#SeekingPeace

VIBEFEST 2025

Greet the New Year with
dance, breathing,
ceremony, and calm.

program : arnprior.ca/museum

Saturday
March 22nd
11 am - 4 pm

Arnprior + District Museum
35 Madawaska St.



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613.623.4902

Questions?



• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •

Reviewing Culture Plans

Examples of Culture Plans for Committee Members to review prior to the meeting in preparation for discussion:

- **City of Toronto:**
 - [CultureConnects: An Action Plan for Toronto \(draft for approval this month\)](#)
- **City of Vancouver:**
 - Culture|Shift: [Blanketing the city in arts and culture](#)
- **City of Lethbridge:**
 - [Lethbridge's Civic Culture Plan](#)