



ARNPRIOR

Town of Arnprior

Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, November 3rd, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

**Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers –
105 Elgin St. W., Arnprior ON.**

- 1. Call to Order**
 - a) Appoint Chair
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Land Acknowledgement**
- 4. Adoption of Agenda**
- 5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**
- 6. Adoption of Previous Minutes**
 - a) **Committee Minutes – October 6, 2025** (Page 1-4)
- 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 5-17)
- 10. New Business**
 - a) **Review of Draft Land Acknowledgment Statement** (Page 18)
 - b) Roundtable Discussion
- 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. 1818. 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
October 6, 2025, at 6:30 PM
Town Hall Council Chambers – 105 Elgin St. W. Arnprior**

Committee and Staff Attendance

Committee Members Present:

Michael Bradley, Chair
Chris Couper, Vice Chair
Dan Lynch, County Councillor
Jennifer McGuire, Committee Member

Town Staff Present:

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture /
Curator (electronically)
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk
Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk

Committee Members Absent:

Leslie Anne Hook, Committee Member
Jo Ann Pecaskie, Committee Member

1. Call to Order

Michael Bradley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed those present.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, with all Members of the Committee being present except Leslie Anne Hook and Jo Ann Pecaskie.

3. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Michael Bradley 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 020-25
Moved by Jennifer McGuire
Seconded by Dan Lynch

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting dated Monday, October 6th, 2025, be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 021-25
Moved by Chris Couper
Seconded by Jennifer McGuire

Be It Resolved That the minutes for the September 2, 2025, Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Resolution Carried

7. Presentations/ Delegations

None

8. Matters Tabled / Deferred / Unfinished Business

a) Land Acknowledgement Workshop – Finalize Statement, Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator provided the Committee with an overview of the Draft Land Acknowledgement Statement structure and guided a discussion on amending the template statement. A summary of the discussion follows:

- Members discussed their individual understanding of reconciliation and what it means to them.
- Questions were raised and discussed on the need for/importance of land acknowledgment statements and personalization of them.
- The role and importance of contextualizing the land acknowledgment statement to the event or meeting.
- Members will take time to further review the draft statement and provide written feedback in advance of its presentation to Council.

Jennifer McGuire vacated her seat at 7:36 PM. Quorum was lost, and the meeting was suspended. Jennifer returned to her seat at 7:38 PM and the meeting resumed.

9. Staff Reports

a) Curators Report – Manager of Culture/Curator

Resolution Number 022-25
Moved by Dan Lynch
Seconded by Chris Couper

That the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee received the Curators Report for information.

Resolution Carried

The Manager of Culture/Curator provided an overview of the report provided in the agenda package.

Chair Michael Bradley vacated his seat at 7:53 PM. Quorum was lost and the meeting was suspended. Chair Michael Bradley returned to his seat at 7:55 PM and the meeting resumed.

Discussion ensued among Committee members with the following being a summary of the comment:

- Discussion surrounding funding for a future Cultural Plan took place.
- Members will look at the Cultural Plans from other municipalities and identify points that they would like to see in Arnprior's Cultural Plan.
- It was noted that a Cultural Plan should be done for a 5-year time frame, given that the Town is just beginning this process.
- Suggested identifying different options for cultural planning that may come in at different price points.

10. New Business

a) Roundtable Discussion

Discussion ensued among Committee Members with the following being a summary:

- In the future, the Blanket Exercise should not be done at the Nick Smith Centre because of the difficulties with hearing the facilitators. It should be hosted somewhere quieter like the library. Overall, the exercise was great and very beneficial.
- Suggested that next year the Town invite local schools to attend the flag raising on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30th, to encourage more support.

11. Adjournment

Resolution Number 023-25

Moved by Jennifer McGuire

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:11 PM.

Resolution Carried



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• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •

Curator's Report

Emily Stovel
Manager of Culture/Curator

November 3, 2025

Activities

- ARH Exhibit Development: content and images
- CNM 2026 planning
- Summer Visitor Analytics to OVTA
- Arrival Exhibit Planning: neighbourhood historian training development
- Lego League
- Witch Walk: 688 people
- Chrystal Toop talk
- Onboard three new staff
- Coat sale: 300+ people
- OVTA conference



Strategic Planning

- Preliminary Reporting
- Witch Walk Map
- Graphic Novel

Cultural Planning

- CSS Infographic
- CCNC cultural planning budget conversation
 - Courtenay, BC: [Strategic Cultural Plan \[PDF/24.5MB\]](#), [Strategic Cultural Plan Summary Report \[PDF/25.1MB\]](#)
 - Kamloops, BC: <https://www.kamloops.ca/city-hall/strategies-plans/cultural-strategic-plan>

Next Up

- Climate Change and Art Advocacy Exhibition, November 1st, 2025 to March 29th, 2026
- ADHS WWI outdoor exhibit installation, November 2025
- Noche Latina, November 29th
- Strategic Planning Retreat, December 2025
- 2026 planning underway
- OCAF meeting
- Public Art Training through CCNC
 - https://www.creativecity.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Public_Art_Toolkit2.pdf

Questions?



• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •



The contribution of Culture to Arnprior's Economy and Jobs

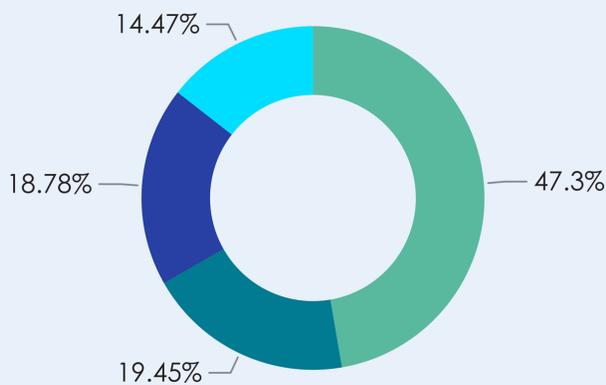


Based on 2021 Census data, and culture GDP data, culture is equal to:
 \$685 per capita in Arnprior and \$1,783 per capita nationally.

Ontario's 2023 culture GDP:
\$32.0 B

Municipal Culture GDP Overview

2023 Municipal Cultural GDP Total: **\$6.6 M**



- Visual and applied arts
\$1,282,596
- Written and published works
\$1,238,282
- Audio-visual and interactive media
\$953,813
- Other domains
\$3,118,326



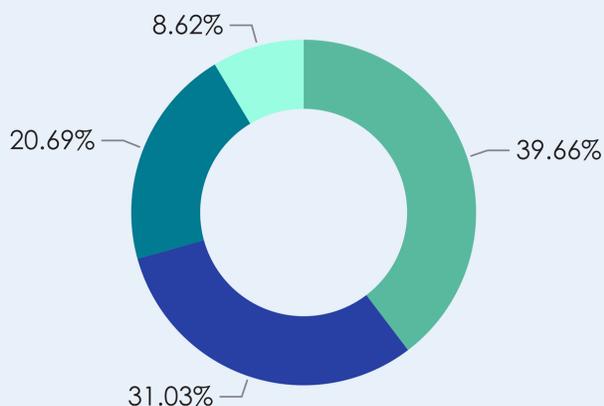
Arnprior's Jobs

According to Census data, in 2021, workers in culture-related occupations earned an average employment income of \$64,000 in Arnprior and \$55,200 in Canada.

Culture-related jobs in Ontario in 2023:
275.7 K

Municipal Culture Jobs Overview

2023 Municipal Cultural Jobs Total: **57**



- Written and published works
18
- Visual and applied arts
12
- Live performance
5
- Other domains
23

NOTE:

The overall municipal totals for GDP and jobs are comprised of several domains, inclusive of even more sub-domains, beyond the top three represented in the infographic. The value of other domains not represented in the top three is captured under the **“OTHER DOMAINS AND NON-CULTURE PRODUCTS (COMBINED)”** total, which includes the Education and Training and Governance, Funding and Professional Support domains. Consequently, this figure can be quite significant, if not exceed, the individual and/or combined totals of the top-three domains. For reference, a full listing of domains and their related sub-domains is provided below for reference, with definitions for each one available at the following website:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/13-607-x/2016001/1248-eng.htm>

“Employment income” is defined as “all income received as wages, salaries and commissions [i.e., culture and non-culture related] from paid employment and net self-employment income from farm or non-farm unincorporated business and/or professional practice during the reference period.”

Domain	Sub-Domain
Heritage and Libraries	Archives Libraries Culture Heritage Natural Heritage
Live Performance	Performing Arts Festivals and Celebrations
Visual and Applied Arts	Original Visual Art Art Reproductions Photography Crafts Advertising Architecture Design
Written and Published Works	Books Periodicals Newspapers Other Published Works Collected Information Multi Subdomain
Audio-Visual and Interactive Media	Film and Video Broadcasting Interactive Media
Sound Recording	Music Publishing Sound Recording
Education and Training	N/A
Governance, Funding and Professional Support	N/A
Multi	N/A

Additionally, all totals derived from Statistics Canada's Provincial and Territorial Culture Indicators, 2010-2023 correspond to the “Industry perspective,” as defined on Statistics Canada's website:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/13-607-x/2016001/1249-eng.htm>

Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

TIMELINE FALL 2025



PROJECT IDEATION

Based on the provided project outline, our group begins preparing some questions and ideas to discuss with our partner.

Initial contact with client to set up first meeting.



First day of class on **September 9**.

Group introductions and icebreakers.

Preliminary meeting with our partner **Emily** from the **Arnprior and District Museum (ADM)** on **September 17**.

Group members begin to conduct research for the project based on discussion.

Meeting with Emily to revise feedback on project proposal from the ADM.

Tentative for **November 12**.

DELIVERABLE CHECKPOINT

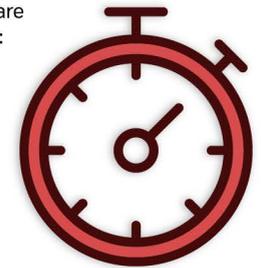
Group revises the working deliverables and makes adjustments where necessary.

Is the project scope still feasible? Do we need to modify our plan?

Following working deliverables are presented to Emily for feedback:

Written Content
Brand/Design Kit
Marketing Strategy

Tentative for **November 26**.



SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Meeting with Emily on **October 1**, to revise our research and the project goals.

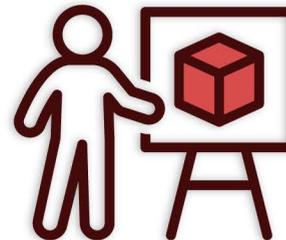
Group fleshes out the physical deliverables that are expected from the team.

Trip to Arnprior on **October 20**.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Proposal document and presentation are due on **October 28**. Feedback from peers and professor is collected.

Document is also provided to ADM for review and feedback.



PROGRESS CRITIQUE

Progress presentations are delivered to the class on **December 2**, showcasing group updates, completed elements and adjustments.

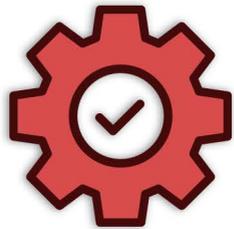
Feedback from peers and professor.

COMPLETED ITEMS

Interview Example Videos
Branding Package
Instruction Manual (Drafts)
Event Planning (Drafts)
Marketing Strategy (Draft)



TIMELINE WINTER 2026



PROGRESS CRITIQUE

Progress presentations are delivered to the class on **February 10**, showcasing group updates, completed elements and adjustments.

Feedback from peers and professor.

COMPLETED ITEMS

Editing/Filming Videos
Print Media
(Pamphlets/Events)

Trip to Armprior on **February 14**.



FINAL PROJECT

Completed project is due on **April 7**.

Group begins preparing for Capstone Exhibition.

Exhibition date **TBD**.

Individual Conference Papers are due **April 24**.

JANUARY

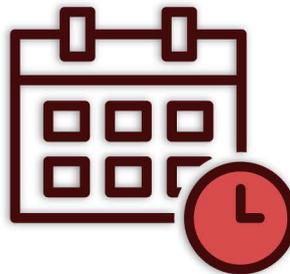
First day of class on **January 7**.

Group revises the working deliverables and makes adjustments where necessary.

Is the project scope still feasible? Do we need to modify our plan?

DELIVERABLE CHECKPOINT

FEBRUARY



Deliverables are presented to Emily for feedback.

Tentative for **March 4**.

MARCH

COMPLETED ITEMS

Instruction Manuel
(Multi-Page Document Version)
Marketing Strategy
Event Strategy

Group revises the working deliverables and makes adjustments where necessary.

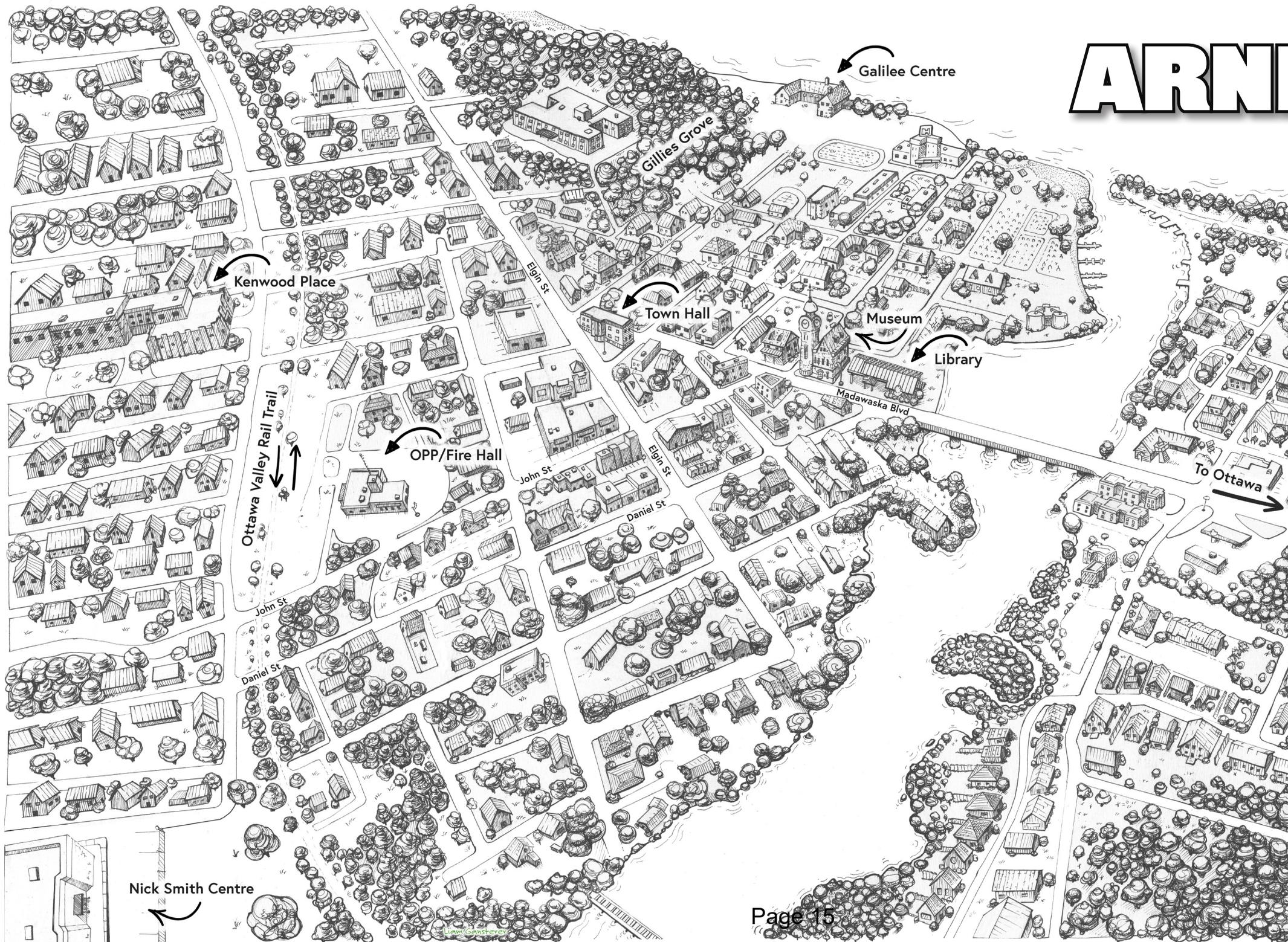
Is the project scope still feasible? Do we need to modify our plan?

DELIVERABLE CHECKPOINT

APRIL



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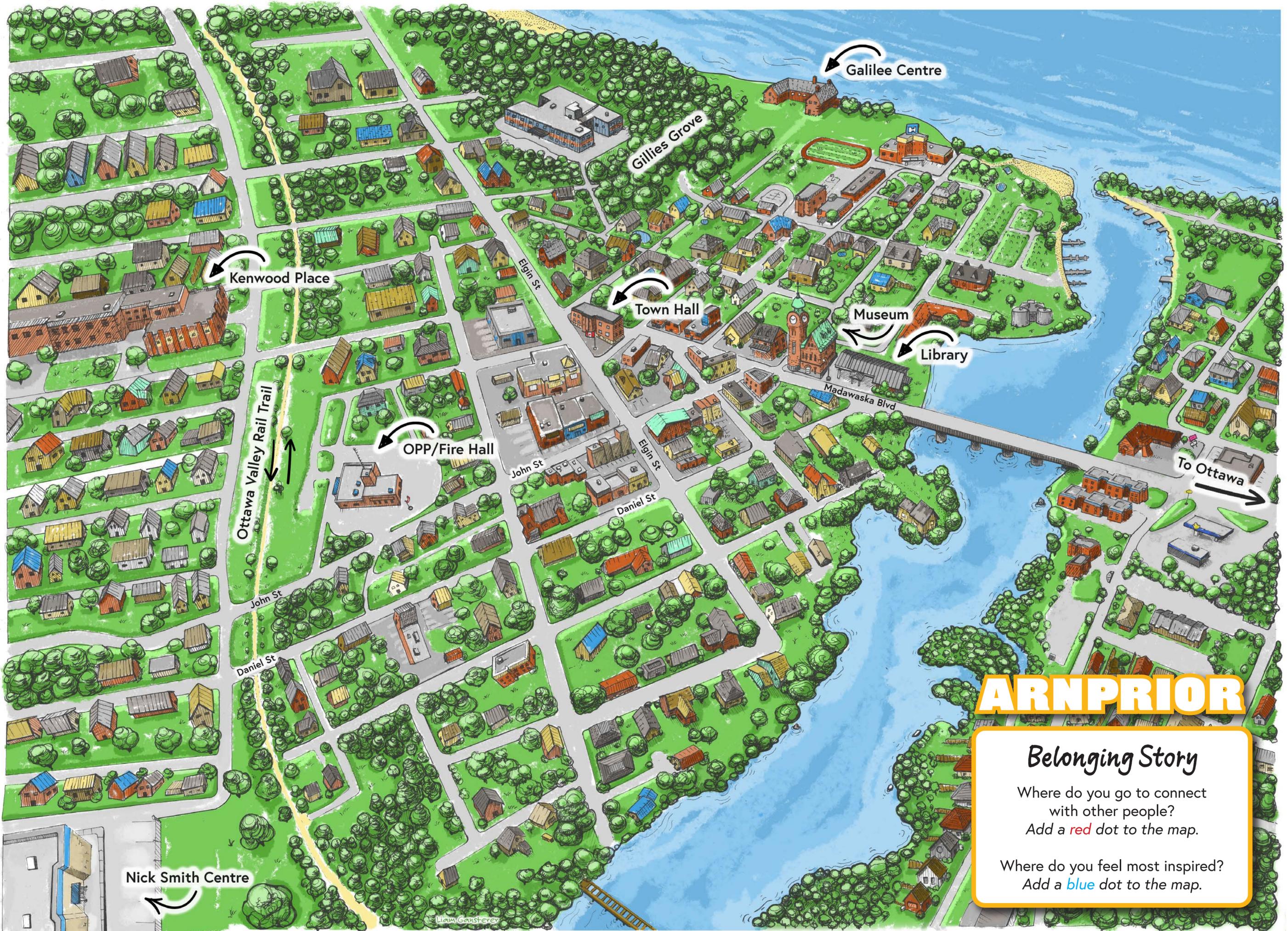
Belonging Story

Where do you go to connect with other people? (friends, family, community)

Add a heart on the map to indicate your favourite places to connect with people.

Where do you feel most inspired?

Add a star to the map to indicate where you feel most inspired



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Belonging Story

Where do you go to connect with other people?

Add a **red** dot to the map.

Where do you feel most inspired?

Add a **blue** dot to the map.

WHAT DID YOU NOTICE ABOUT ARNPRIOR WHEN YOU WERE A YOUNG TREE?

WHAT WOULD YOU ASK THE FIRST PEOPLE WHO LIVED ON THIS LAND?

WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL BE INTO IN THE YEAR 2070?

YOU HAVE BEEN HERE FOR A VERY LONG TIME, WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS PLACE WILL BE LIKE IN A 1000 YEARS?

Some of the trees in Gillies Grove are between 150 and 200 years old.

The Algonquin Peoples have been living on and caring for the place we call Arnprior for thousands of years.

Arnprior has lots of Precambrian rocks. They have been here for millions of years.

SOMETIMES I WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE.

ME TOO. BUT WE ARE ALL GOING THERE TOGETHER.

I WONDER WHAT COULD MAKE THE FUTURE FEEL BETTER?

WOW IT SURE IS BUSY RIGHT HERE! WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO ALWAYS HAVE NEW CURRENTS COMING AND GOING?

I HAVE NOTICED THAT HUMANS MOVE AROUND A LOT. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU BELONG?

Arnprior is located at the confluence (place where two rivers meet) of the Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers.

DRAFT Land Acknowledgement

What does Reconciliation mean to you? What actions are you taking to move forward in the best way?

Prompts for First Draft

As the Arnprior Town Council (or the entity for whom you are speaking),

We respectfully acknowledge that we (choose: work/gather/celebrate) on the unceded and unsurrendered territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg peoples.

Insert here a brief story from local Algonquin life and experiences that have impacted you (options: recognize the harder parts of the shared history, recognize local neighbours and that we are all here now, together). Check the Pikwakanagan newsletters in Council packages and anishnabeknews.ca, Algonquins of Ontario: tanakiwin.com.

We are all so fortunate to know this place, to call this place home.

We are committed to learning about Indigenous experiences to ensure that contributions of all Indigenous neighbours will continue to be recognized for today and future generations.

We will encourage others to join us through public events and conversations that support growth and collaboration in learning and understanding.

Include here a brief statement about one's personal relationship with reconciliation.