



MEMORANDUM



TO: Heritage Markham Committee

FROM: Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

DATE: April 9, 2025

SUBJECT: Special Events
50th Anniversary Celebrations
Sub-Committee Notes – March 20th

Project: 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Background:

- 50th Anniversary was formed to plan events for 2025

Status/ Staff Comment

- Notes from the March 20, 2025 Sub-Committee

Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham

That Heritage Markham Committee receive as information the 50th Anniversary Sub-Committee Notes from March 20, 2025.

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50th Anniversary Sub-Committee



DATE: March 20, 2025 7pm
LOCATION: Ontario Room, Civic Centre
ATTENDEES: Lake Trevelyan, Reid McAlpine, Tejinder Sidhu, Kegan Subramaniam, David Butterworth, Victor Huang

ABSENT: R. Hutcheson (Staff), Vanda Vicars
GUESTS: Dianne More (Markham Village Conservancy)

CHAIR OF MEETING: L. Trevelyan

DISCUSSION:

Objective(s)

Logo

- Sub-Committee approved one of the logos created by David. It is attached.
- David suggested that we could create sponsored TEE shirts with the logo on it.

Events

Main Event – November 13, 2025

- It was decided that the Transportation Room was the best for the Event. It would be set up with eating stations, and bar, with tables and chair set-up for 100 attendees. Tickets would be issued at no cost so we can limit the attendance to the capacity.
- The invite list includes all Councillors, (who could be picked up in bus or two existing minivans and given tour of heritage areas and homes and then driven to the event), Mayor, Heritage Staff, Committee staff, and award winners. Once we determine how many that will be, we can decide on further invitations, or open to Regional Councillors and/or the public?
- IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HOW MANY AWARDS THERE WILL BE. It had been estimated that there could be up to 20 awards, and each could have 3-4 persons for each, so the limit above becomes important. As actual formal presentation would be very timely (and boring) it was suggested to create a looping video of the before (if possible) and after of each award and set up a large screen that would show that throughout the event (possibly off during speeches). We would need someone to create the video, so options included Kegan finding a student as he has in the past, or asking York University, or ask Lorne Smith to see who did the Heritage Walk YouTube with him. Other options welcome.
- The potential of combining the event with the Markham Players was problematic and relates to when we would start the event. As it is a weeknight (Thursday) it is difficult to start at 6:00 (which also would require full meal, whereas a likelier start at 7:00 could mean a less full menu – stations. However, if our event ran over an hour, which is highly

likely, the Play starts at 8:00 and runs 2 ½ hours....So we felt that we would forgo the play and discuss speaker options.

- **Possible Guest Speaker:** Regan suggested Dave LeBlanc (The Architourist). Other suggestions include Llyod Roberston, Joe Bowen, or a focus on Heritage like the Unionville Event (Lorne, George, Regan)
- We must speak to Andrea about additional decorations for the room (one or two of the wagons)., and if they have AV equipment, including large screen...
- We must finalize the budget as soon as possible, outlined below, so we can then approach sponsors for various portions of the event.

Photo/Art Contest

- It was also discussed if we could create a **photo or art contest** or just get photos or drawings of Heritage throughout Markham by going to the schools (High Schools or University). Could be a School or Class project in September in time to display at the Event or at other sites. Reid will reach out to The Markham Group of Artists also who might take this on, or in fact, may already have such art.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS....

- With the decision that the Main Event will be the AWARDS, cannot offer a broader appeal to promote Heritage to a broader demographic, we would hope that displays and Heritage 50 promotion can occur at as many events prior as possible...
- To do so requires Volunteers to man and set up at those events...
 - International Museum Day (May 18th) coordinated by Andrea and Regan
 - Unionville Festival (June ?) Lake & Reid
 - 28th Apple Fest (September 2nd) – Andrea & ? (maybe Karen)
 - Markham Fair (October 2-5) – Kegan and ? for Saturday and Sunday only
 - Doors Open (September 20th) – Dianne (Markham Conservancy) and Tejinder (at train station)
 - Markham Jazz Festival (date?) – Reid and Lake and?
 - ARE THERE MORE OR DO WE HAVE VOLUNTEERS FOR MORE???

SPEAKING EVENTS

- The concept of creating a **Heritage presentation** for the various Ratepayer or local Heritage Associations throughout Markham was discussed. URA, Thornhill ratepayers or Historical Society, and others.
- One suggestion, from Dianne was for Dave Wylie and her son to do a video of what is involved in making Heritage Windows and masonry to show at these events, and hand out info on Heritage 50. Or do video or in-person presentations like Unionville (Lorne, George, Regan)

Budget

We must get this estimated asap.

- QR project (TBD)
- Food - \$5000 (Karen mentioned O&G Catering)
- Drink – donated hopefully by Willow Springs or – need wine and beer – should be one free drink per ticket and then cash bar)
- Display cost - new four panel possible – (\$500-\$1000)

- Video creation (TBD)
- Event decorations (TBD)
- AV equipment if not at Museum.
- Actual awards

Communications

- **Heritage Display** - Heritage Staff will update, (may ask for committee assistance) for new pictures to create additional before/after pictures of Markham successful projects... and modify existing display to make visible and useable from both sides...

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:

1. Confirm at next meeting if we want a guest speaker at the Main Event.
2. Confirm what AV equipment is available at the Transportation Building that we can use (Screen, microphone, etc.) Contact Andrea.
3. Councillor McAlpine to reach out to The Markham Group of Artists regarding the concept of a photo or art contest.
4. Confirm other volunteers from HM Committee for outreach events throughout the year.
5. Confirm if additional funding is available for the main Event. Or sponsorship.
6. Request Heritage Section staff to estimate the cost of the actual Awards for budget purposes.
7. Request Heritage Section staff to modify Heritage Display for availability in May.
8. Request Heritage Section staff to initiate the identification of candidates for the Awards of Excellence (projects completed between 2018-2025)

NEXT MEETING:

Sub-Committee did not set a date for the next meeting, but hope that we can have some realistic budget estimates and sponsorship feedback for that meeting