



**DOORS OPEN MARKHAM 2025  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**Electronic Zoom Meeting  
September 11, 2024**

**Attendance**

**Present**

Andrew Fuyarchuk  
Bowie Leung  
Kenneth Ng  
Dominica Tang

**Staff**

Audrey Bouman, Corporate Communications  
Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage  
Planning  
Renee Zhang, Manager, Corporate &  
Community Events  
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Clerk

**Regrets**

Yat Chi Ling  
Jude Mahmoud  
Agatha McPhee  
Ken Steinberg  
Regional Councillor Alan Ho  
Councillor Reid McAlpine

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Doors Open Markham 2024 Organizing Committee was called to order at 5:38 PM with Andrew Fuyarchuk serving as Chair.

**2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted with the following additions:

- Item #5 Event Planning was expanded to include (a) event plan, (b) theme, (c) new sites, and (d) new Committee members
- Review of roles and responsibilities was added as a New Business item

### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DOORS OPEN MARKHAM 2025 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 7, 2024**

It was

Moved by            Andrew Fuyarchuk  
Seconded by        Bowie Leung

That the minutes of the Doors Open Markham 2024 Organizing Committee meeting held on August 7, 2024 be adopted as amended with the following addition in italics:

#### **7. LESSONS LEARNED FROM JUNE 2024 EVENT**

The Doors Open 2024 event was deemed a success, and the members present consented to proceed with holding this annual event in September, with the next one being planned for **September 28, 2025**.

Discussion on considerations for the next event included:

- (i) *Suggestion that the registration form include a clause that private companies cannot use the event to promote or sell services and products on designated Doors Open sites.*

CARRIED

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

No report was available.

#### **5. PLANNING FOR 2025 DOORS OPEN MARKHAM EVENT**

- (a) **2025 Event Plan** – The date has been set for September 28, 2025. The Committee discussed the start and end times. Committee members agreed that volunteers should arrive an hour prior to the start time to assist with set-up and, because of the amount of planning required for the Doors Open Markham event, that event sites should be open for seven hours. The Committee agreed to discuss the timing again at a future meeting.
- (b) **Theme** – The Committee considered the following possible themes: (i) Education in Markham, since Markham has both historical and modern educational buildings that would be of interest, and possibly displaying information about residential schools; (ii) Sports theme to reflect the 2024 Olympics and the 2025 World Cup, and Markham’s Pan Am Centre; (iii) a combination of sports and education. Given that the Doors Open concept has traditionally focussed on the cultural heritage of a municipality, it was felt that Markham may not have many sports and recreation places of historical interest.

Other suggested themes included (i) successful themes from previous Doors Open Markham events and (ii) a theme of “People who shaped Markham” since residents are curious to learn about these individuals, or learn about the unique historical stories that are behind the buildings that they drive or walk past every day.

It was also noted that 2025 will mark the 50th anniversary of Heritage Conservation planning in Markham.

- (c) **Sites** – Renee Zhang provided a brief update regarding the sites discussed at the August 2024 meeting: Heinzman House, Unionville Train station, Thornhill Village Library, Markham Village train station, and Markham Village Fire Station are all available, and they have noted the September 2025 event date. Pan Am Centre has also noted the September 2025 event date.

Markham Museum has two other events scheduled in September 2025 and so, staff do not think that it will have enough resources and staffing to also support the Doors Open Markham event.

York University is interested in participating, but September is a busy time due to fall semester start up. They will consider how they might be able to participate.

The upstairs of Stiver's Mill will not be accessible to the public since this area was not designed or engineered for public use. Renee Zhng will connect Kenneth Ng with the recreation team so they might discuss the rationale behind the restricted access.

Regan Hutcheson left at 6:50 pm to attend another meeting.

- (d) **New Committee Members** – Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator, will be invited to the next meeting to outline Markham's process for recruiting committee members, and to advise when the Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee might receive new members.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**Roles and Responsibilities** - The Committee agreed that the 2024 event day execution went smoothly and therefore, agreed to retain the roles and responsibilities as written. However, for the next meeting, Committee members were encouraged to review the Roles and Responsibilities document and bring comments for discussion; Renee Zhang will present a high level roles structure.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Volunteer recruitment** – Renee Zhang will summarize in an email to Committee members key points for discussion. Volunteer recruitment will be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Doors Open Markham 2025 Organizing Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The Doors Open Markham 2025 Organizing Committee adjourned at 7:05 PM.