



**DOORS OPEN MARKHAM 2025
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

NOTES

**Electronic Zoom Meeting
October 16, 2024**

Attendance

Present

Andrew Fuyarchuk
Bowie Leung
Agatha McPhee

Guest

Tejinder Sidhu, Member, Heritage Markham
Heritage Committee

Regrets

Yat Chi Ling
Jude Mahmoud
Kenneth Ng
Ken Steinberg
Dominica Tang
Regional Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Reid McAlpine
Audrey Bouman, Corporate Communications

Staff

Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator
Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage
Planning
Kisha Powell, Corporate Communications
Renee Zhang, Manager, Corporate &
Community Events
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Doors Open Markham 2025 Organizing Committee was called to order at 5:38 PM with Andrew Fuyarchuk serving as Chair. As there was no quorum, the Chair noted that no motions could be approved and that notes would be taken for information purposes.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

**3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DOORS OPEN MARKHAM 2025
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2024**

As there was no quorum, approval of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Laura Gold provided an update on the recruitment of new members for the Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee. She reported that the Clerk's Office had advertised for new members for several Markham committees. Applications have been received and at least three applicants indicated that the Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee was their first choice. The next step would be to proceed to interviews, conducted by Renee Zhang, a ~~manager from the Clerk's Office~~ Manager, Corporate and Community Events, and Laura Gold (Clerks Office); then the appointments are sent to Council for approval. Ms. Gold advised that applications would still be accepted if Committee members knew of anyone who wanted to apply.

Commented [RH1]: Please check with Laura on this statement

In response to questions about how many members were to be on the Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee; Ms. Gold advised that the Committee's Terms of Reference indicates membership as up to ten members of the public and two members of the Heritage Markham Committee as well as a representative from the Thornhill Heritage District, the UBIA, MVBIA and Friends of the Markham Museum. She noted that there is only one representative from the Heritage Markham Committee, so the Committee could possibly add an extra member from the public.

Laura Gold left the meeting at 5:45 pm..

Kisha Powell enquired about communication matters; this will be added as an item on the agenda for the November 20, 2024 meeting.

Kisha Powell left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

5. PLANNING FOR 2025 DOORS OPEN MARKHAM EVENT

- (a) **2025 Event Plan** – Renee Zhang reported that she has drafted a very high level event planning document. She will distribute it via email to Committee members for their review, and discussion at the next meeting.
- (b) **Theme** – The Committee discussed possible themes, such as Education in Markham.
Regan Hutcheson reviewed this proposal and list of potential sites that would tie in with that theme - such as heritage buildings that are now used for educational facilities, as well as some purpose-built facilities like the old school houses in Markham. There's also the educational facility in Buttonville for York Region, the schoolhouse restaurant on 14th Avenue, and York University. The Committee discussed whether the name "Education" would turn off people since the event is scheduled for September 2025 and children would be back in school then. Because there are a number of potential sites from which to select, criteria such as ease of access, proximity to other locations and spatial accessibility factors would inform decisions on which sites to include.
- (c) **Sites** – Andrew Fuyarchuk advised about another site to consider: the Markham District Veterans Association, a designated heritage site. It is located close to the Markham train station and the fire station, which could create an interesting hub of activity. It has an exhibit hall downstairs and an upper floor with community space where there could be

interesting programming. The education theme could be reflected in that they're keeping alive and sharing the history of the veterans who served in the various conflicts over time.

(d) **Volunteer recruitment** – It was felt that the Committee may wish to begin volunteer recruitment efforts earlier this year. Renee Zhang advised that the Committee could use a recruitment platform that the City of Markham has been using, but first the event date timing and the number of volunteers per site need to be determined. The system will allow existing volunteers in our database to sign up for that opportunity. For Committee members who wish to recruit volunteers from schools or other associations, Renee Zhang will provide the City's guidelines about verification of documentation and vulnerable sector screening.

The Committee was reminded that, in previous years, there has been a Committee member who served as a volunteer coordinator to manage volunteer activities, and determine which sites need volunteers, make sure that enough people are allocated to each site and ensure at least one adult volunteer at each site to supervise high school student volunteers. Consideration of this was deferred until the Committee is able to confirm the date, time, and the sites.

6. NEW BUSINESS

None was identified.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

None was identified.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Doors Open Markham 2025 Organizing Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Doors Open Markham 2025 Organizing Committee adjourned at 6:25 PM.