



THE UPDATE

York Pioneer and Historical Society

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A New Direction for 2018!

Report of the Nominating Committee:

Chair Audrey Fox; board members David Raymont, Cindy Ewins, Liam Peppiatt & Ari Kulidjian and, from the general membership, Stephanie Lever & Michael Nettleton

The Nominating Committee of the YPHS is pleased to present the following members nominated to serve as the Society's Board of Directors for the year 2018. We thank outgoing board members Wesley Ferris, Liam Peppiatt and Tamara Gligorevic for their service.

Officers

Past President: David Raymont

President: Ari Kulidjian

Vice President: Fred Robbins

Treasurer: Faryal Aslam

Recording Secretary: Adrian De Souza

Corresponding Secretary [Social media]: Olivia Zhou

Archivist: David Duncan

Committee Chairs

Editorial: Audrey Fox

Membership: Cindy Ewins

Programme: Kristen Myhal

Publicity (newsletter): Greg Kuzmich

Scadding Cabin: Kayoko Smith

Representative on the Board of Sharon

Temple: Fred Robbins

Members at Large

Michael Nettleton

Benyamin Gorgan

Anukul Sharma

Bob Georgiou

Attend the Annual General Meeting of the York Pioneers

January 21, 2 to 4 pm.

McKenzie House,

34 Parkview Avenue, Toronto

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Brent Cunningham, Ruth Cameron and Kayoko Smith welcomed visitors to Scadding Cabin during the CNE, as well as Doors Open. Photo by John Marshall.

A Wonderful Summer at the CNE!

To celebrate Canada's 150th birthday, the Pioneers stepped up their activities at the Scadding Cabin during the run of the Canadian National Exhibition.

Almost every day there was a new event to encourage visits, and to help visitors better appreciate the stories that make Toronto and York Region. Thank you to volunteer Liam Peppiatt who organized this year's special events.

Thanks to Brittany Hubble, Aboriginal Student Services, University of Toronto; Brian Maclean, First Story Toronto; Margaret McRae and Anne Purvis, Toronto Field Naturalists; Stuart MacIsaac, Cosmic Collectives Yoga; Philippa Dowding, author of childrens books; Chantal Véchambre, York Pioneer and pastry chef; Bob and Sue Roden portraying the Simcoes; Trevor Parkins-Sciberras, Toronto Transit Blocks; Elizabeth Evans, Museum Manager, Sharon Temple and staff of Mackenzie House Museum who responded to Liam's call.

What was the result?

This year there were 9,137 visits to the Cabin, and increase of nearly 1800 from the previous year. Donations and sales were also up, totaling \$2,275.25.

These numbers do not include visits and donations resulting from the evening ghost walks that occurred during the run of the fair.

Many thanks to John Marshall and Ruth Cameron who welcomed Pioneers who volunteered this summer.

Fall Ghost Walks a Continued Favorite

Friday evenings during October volunteers Diane Reid, Stephanie Thomas, Ruth Cameron and Kayoko Smith welcomed participants in Exhibition Place ghost walks to Scadding Cabin. This year, about 160 people visited the cabin.

Cabin Repairs

Days prior to the opening of the CNE, there was an attempt to break into Scadding Cabin. A window was broken and the front door was scraped. David Raymont replaced the broken window and John Marshall has taken a first step to repair a window shutter.

Directors continue to review security measures for the cabin. Patrols by Exhibition Place security staff are frequent.

Leaving Trinity St. Paul's Centre

The need to expand the childrens' school at Trinity St. Pauls Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts resulted in the termination of the lease the York Pioneers have enjoyed at this popular Toronto Annex location.

Directors decided that the best first step to ensure good care of the Society's library and archives was to place them in a climate-controlled storage locker at Carnforth Self Storage, near Victoria Park and Lawrence Avenue East in Toronto. Thank you to Cindy Ewins for identifying the benefits of this facility.

Thank you to archivist David Duncan for organizing the packing of the library and archives, with the help of Audrey Fox, John Marshall and David Raymont.

David Duncan, with the help of Cindy Ewins, supervised the move that ensured easy access to the archives and library during the stay in storage. If you wish to visit the archive and library, please contact David at wfduncan@gmail.com or call 416-627-0784.

During the summer months, Directors considered a number of potential new locations for the library and archives that would include the ability to hold meetings.

A final decision has been delayed to allow Directors to take a new look at the Society's finances and cash flow to ensure the choice best serves the long term needs.

Best Dinner Company!

Thirty-five Pioneers attended the annual dinner held at the Free Times Café on October 22. Award-winning journalist John Lorinc was the guest speaker and gave an interesting presentation about archaeology in the Toronto neighbourhood known as The Ward.

Thanks to Café owner Judy Perley and her staff, Pioneers enjoyed an abundant buffet. The event was so successful that it attracted two new members!



John Lorinc, former president Paul Litt and director Cindy Ewins raise their glasses to celebrate the York Pioneers at the annual dinner held at the Free Times Café.



Director Fred Robbins thanks John Lorinc for his engaging talk about the different communities that lived in The Ward, the residential neighbourhood that once existed where City Hall and the Eaton Centre now stand.

Both photos by David Rayment.

Highlights of a Busy November

November 4 - 12: Pioneers Diane Reid, John Marshall, Roksana Podolska, Kayoko Smith, Audrey Fox and Cindy Ewins displayed early 1800s cooking and food preparation techniques in the heritage hall at the Royal Winter Fair, Exhibition Place. More than \$84 was raised from donations and sales of recipe books.



Former president Diane Reid demonstrates a hand crank apple corer and peeler to visitors to the York Pioneer booth at the Royal Winter Fair. Photo by David Raymont.

November 12: Pioneers received advance notice to buy tickets to hear Simonetta Mariano speak at Gibson House Museum. Mariano was costume designer for the tv series *Alias Grace*, based on Margaret Atwood's novel of the same name.

Mariano described how costume design helped recreate Toronto and York County in the 1840s, as imagined by Margaret Atwood in her novel. She also described her experience working with actors in the series Sara Gadon, Paul Gross and Anna Paquin.

Pioneers were welcomed to a tea at Gibson House Museum **November 21** to recognize the Society's partnership with Toronto Museums that resulted in a month-long display



of costumes from the *Alias Grace* tv series and vintage 19th century clothing in the City's collection.

York Pioneers Sue and Bob Roden join costume designer Simonetta Mariano to look at a dress worn by actor Sarah Gadon in the tv series *Alias Grace*. Photo by David Raymont.



York Pioneer Vice President Ari Kulidjian talks with Kathy Waine, while Nancy Conn, Gerald Lee and former president Diane Reid enjoy lunch at Osgoode Hall. Photo by David Raymont.

November 16: Pioneers enjoyed lunch at Osgoode Hall, followed by a tour given by YPHS vice-president Ari Kulidjian, who had trained at the institution.

Member News

In Memoriam

Long-time York Pioneer Ralph Cunningham died suddenly in November. A writer and former employee of the CBC, Ralph was a generous supporter of our Society.

Welcome To New Members

James Young, Carol and Fred Simmons, JoAnne Clark, Rita Turner, Robert Taylor, Doug Taylor, Jean Miles, David Stich, Mark Hall, Jim Macdonald, Christina Sobolak, R. Allister Keene, Phil Portelli, David Reigate, John Webb and Dr. Alexander Franklin.

Thank you for joining the York Pioneers!

The YPHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport.