



THE UPDATE

York Pioneer and Historical Society

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Sharon Temple Heritage Celebration Gala & Fundraiser

Date: Thursday June 9, 2022
Time: 6:00pm to 9:30pm
Location: East Gwillimbury
18974 Leslie St., Sharon, ON, L0G 1V0

The Sharon Temple National Historical Site and Museum and the York Pioneer and Historical Society are delighted by the return of the Heritage Celebration Gala and Fundraiser! Enjoy an evening of history, culture, and live music. Admission includes gourmet food stations, Ontario wines, and craft beer. For more details, see the Sharon Temple online:

<https://www.sharontemple.ca/events-1/heritage-celebration-gala-and-fundraiser>

Doors Open Toronto is ON!

After a two-year hiatus, the York Pioneers are also pleased to announce that Doors Open Toronto is ON this year, and we are seeking volunteers at the Scadding Cabin! Doors Open will be held Saturday 28 May and Sunday 29 May. Interested volunteers are encouraged to contact Kayoko Smith at (416) 488-7863 or kayto.ca@live.ca to make arrangements. Volunteers are also encouraged to submit their photographs of their Scadding Cabin experience to yorkpioneers@gmail.com



*Above: Wintery scene at the Scadding Cabin
Photo: Livable.com*

NOTICE TO VOLUNTEERS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS

While the State of Emergency measures taken by the Province of Ontario have been lifted since February, volunteers are encouraged to check in advance and agree to abide by local safety protocols such as masking requirements before representing the YPHS as a volunteer.

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REPORT FROM THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For the second consecutive year of the pandemic (and hopefully, the last), we held our AGM virtually by distributing all important documents to members by mail. The mail-in ballot format worked very well last year, and this year we had roughly 40% of members responding.

All members in good standing received notice of the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the December 2021 issue of The Update, which was sent out by email on January 5, 2022 and by regular mail January 12, 2022 to those members for whom we do not have an email address.

On March 26, 2022 a package of materials was mailed to members in good standing. The package contained the 2021 draft financial statements as prepared by our accountants, minutes from the prior AGM, and Board reports. Also included was the ballot for voting on the matters before this year's AGM, together with a postage paid self-addressed envelope for returning the ballot. Family memberships received 2 ballots and 2 return envelopes.

Deadline for receipt of returned ballots was April 19, 2022. Returned ballot envelopes were kept sealed until the count. The opening and count were performed under dual custody on April 20, 2022 (65 of the 171 issued ballots were returned). All returned ballots appeared to be regular in form and authentic.

The results for the five motions on the ballot are as follows:

Motion 1: motion to approve the minutes of 2021 AGM, as included. Moved by Gerald Lee and seconded by Michael Nettleton.
In favour 63, abstentions 2. Motion carried.

Motion 2: election of the 2022 YPHS Board of Directors. Moved by Kayoko Smith and seconded by David Raymont.

As no additional nominations were received from the membership via the process set out in the December 2021 issue of The Update, be it resolved that Nominations for the 2022 York Pioneer and Historical Society Board of Directions be closed and the slate of candidates for the positions be accepted as presented by the Nominating Committee. Motion to elect the slate as presented.
In favour 64, abstentions 1. Motion carried.

Motion 3: motion to accept the financial statements for the year ended October 31, 2021, as included
Moved by Lionel Collier and seconded by Michael Nettleton.
In favour 64, abstentions 1. Motion carried.

Motion 4: statement of responsibility All acts, contracts, bylaws, proceedings, appointments, and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Board of Directors of the Society since the date of the last Annual Meeting as the same are set out or referred to in the Minutes of the Board of Directors or in the Annual Reports and Financial Statements included herewith, be hereby approved and confirmed. Moved by Cindy Ewins and seconded by Michael Nettleton.
In favour 65. Motion carried.

Motion 5: appointment of accountants Resolved, that Chaplin & Company, Chartered Accountants are hereby appointed to serve as the independent public accountants of the Society for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2022. Moved by Lionel Collier and seconded by Beth Alaksa.
In favour 65. Motion carried.

Thank you to retiring Board member Jennifer Gray.

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING -

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED ON RETURNED BALLOTS

- **Why was there less \$ spent on publications?**

Our annual York Pioneer magazine was not published during 2021 so those costs did not occur during the 2020/2021 fiscal year. Also, in the previous year this category included an expense of \$7,500 for the new Heritage Toronto commemorative plaque for the Scadding Estate.

- **Who were the members of the Financial Committee? When were the meetings held?**

Members of the Investment Committee are, at present:

- from the Board of Directors: Fred Robbins (president), Lionel Collier (treasurer), Angus Palmer (membership), and Cindy Ewins (member at large, former treasurer)
- from the membership: life member Leo Fox, and former president and life member Paul Litt

The Board of Directors formally created the Investment Committee in November 2020. Prior to that point there had been various investments subcommittees working on creating investment policy and procedures, and the YPHS Policy and Procedures for Investments was approved by the Board in the October 2020 board meeting. Without formal and approved policy and procedures governing investments, investments other than basic GICs cannot be made.

Meetings of the investment committee took place: Sept 15/21, Sept 29/21, Oct 12/21, Oct 24/21 and Dec 22/21.

- **Re Edward Jones investments, who meets with advisor to oversee funds, and how often?**

The Investment Committee will meet quarterly to review monthly statements from the investment house, and meet with the advisor twice a year to review the portfolio to ensure compliance with the Investment Policy and Procedures.

- **Two members sent thanks / congratulations to the Board for carrying on through challenging conditions.**

2022 Board Members

Officers

Past President: David Raymont

President: Fred Robbins

Vice President: Beth Alaksa

Treasurer: Cindy Ewins

Recording Secretary: George Duncan

Corresponding Secretary [Social media]: Melissa Vella Singh

Archivist: Gerry Lee

Committee Chairs

Editorial: Vacant

Membership: Angus D. Palmer

Programme: Stefanie Lem

Publicity/Newsletter: Brent Cunningham

Scadding Cabin: Kayoko Smith

Representative on the Board of Sharon Temple: Fred Robbins

Canadian National Exhibition: Angus D. Palmer

Members at Large

Sarah Gossip

Michael Nettleton

Lionel Collier

Richard Fiennes-Clinton

NEW SCAN OF TREATY MAP FOR YORK PIONEERS

By David Raymont

A fresh scan of the 1805 Toronto Purchase by Library and Archives Canada has been presented to the York Pioneers.

The scan includes a hand-drawn survey map of the land negotiated between the Mississauga First Nation and the colonial Indian Department, as well as signatures and of witnesses to the agreement.

The 1805 Purchase is a vital document in the history of the Greater Toronto Area. The agreement replaced a previous treaty – the 1787 agreement often called the “gunshot treaty”, which was found to be incomplete.

This agreement confirmed the legal title to 250, 880 acres now occupied by parts of Toronto, Vaughan, King Township, Aurora and Richmond Hill, including property that had already been assigned to settlers.

Representatives of the Mississauga First Nation were awarded 10 shillings for signing the agreement, an amount now worth about \$27. No further award was given to the Nation for signing the agreement.

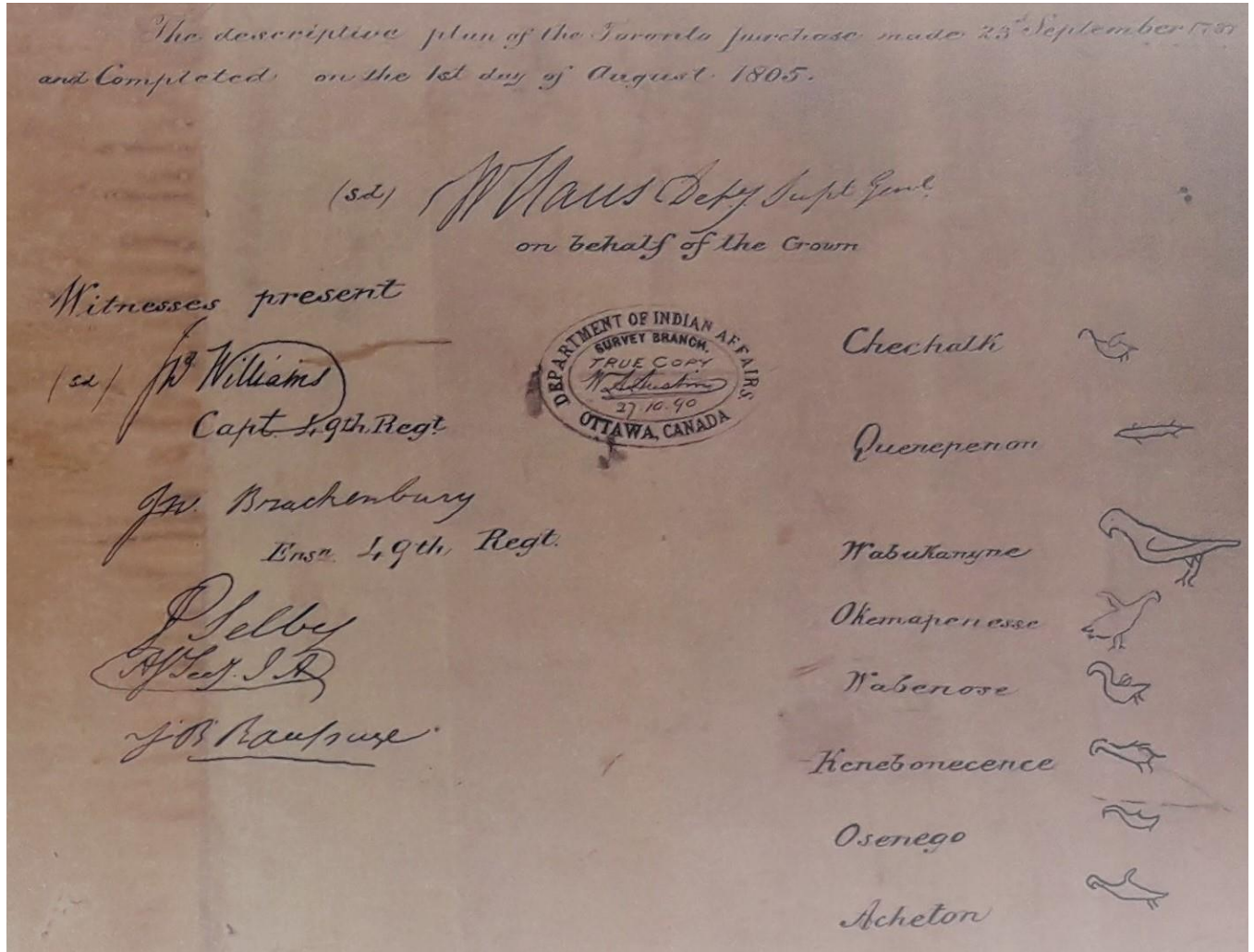
In 2010, after more than 20 years of dispute, the Mississaugas of the Credit were awarded \$145 million as a settlement from the Government of Canada for signing the Toronto Purchase, and another treaty concerning a land transfer in Burlington. The settlement award was based on an estimate of the value of the land in 1805 rather than 2010.

York Pioneers have several connections to the Toronto Purchase. The agreement confirmed the transfer of land to John Scadding in the 1790s.

In addition, an estimate of the value of Scadding’s property in 1805, including his cabin – which is now on display at the Exhibition grounds – helped the federal government determine the 2010 award to the Mississauga First Nation.

One of the first members of the York Pioneers, William Rowe of Newmarket, was once employed by Prideaux Selby, who was part of the team from the Indian Department that negotiated this agreement.

Scadding Cabin is expected to be open later this year to participate in Doors Open Toronto and the Canadian National Exhibition. The Toronto Purchase document will join the Cabin’s display.



Above: The York Pioneers will be able to display the map and signatures of those who negotiated and witnessed the signing of the 1805 Toronto Purchase. **Image:** Library and Archives Canada MIKAN 2149388.

The Tinsmith – Part Seven

Bad News; there is enough work here to keep us busy for the next three weeks

Good News; Fort George's tinsmith has three relatively experienced apprentices so the work shouldn't take too long, I hope

After examining the work that needed to be done, I went to the Sergeant-Major and advised him it would be completed in about six days and asked if our stay here at Fort George could be extended from four days to seven. He said he would talk to the powers that be. With that the six of us in the tin shop set to work. It seemed like an endless stream of plate, tubs and bucket repairs with a side trip into soldier's water canteens and powder box tins for their cartouches.

I had the boys working twelve hour days which were clearly seven hours longer than what the Fort George's apprentices were used to. By the end of the fifth day all the work had been caught up, impressing both the Fort's commanding officer as well as my own..

While working in the shop, I came across a large quantity of quality tin sheets. So over a few days a number found their way into our wagon. Between working and appropriating the tin sheets I would visit the fort's tinsmith. He had recovered enough to be released from the hospital to his room. I learned that he had come down with a fever and severe cough which was bringing up blood and a blackish phlegm. After a couple of weeks of rest and more herbal medicine from the natives, the fort's smith started to recover enough to go back to his room to continue convalescing. During my visits I learned a number of units (both large and small) had come through the fort's gates on our way west to Fort Erie (or so they claimed). This would put them in the vicinity of Ridgeway, the same place where we are heading. Upon learning this, I spent the last couple of days before we left trying to find out about our final destination and the Fenians Brotherhood. I had no luck with either subject. The time came to hitch up the horses and fall into line. We were on our west again. (cue Willie Nelson song).

Barry Mapes, Esq., Tinsmith



From Wikipedia: A tinsmith, sometimes known as a whitesmith, tinner, tinker, tinman, or tinplate worker is a person who makes and repairs things made of tin or other light metals. By extension it can also refer to the person who deals in tinware, or tin plate. Tinsmith was a common occupation in pre-industrial times.

York Pioneer member Barry Mapes was a volunteer at the Tollkeeper's Cottage and your YPHS Representative at the CNEA. He had been learning about tinsmithing.

IN MEMORY OF BARRY MAPES – A DEDICATED PIONEER

Barry Mapes didn't think understanding history was limited to reading a book. He saw the study of the past as something that could be experienced in the present – by practicing the skills of past artisans or conducting the exercises and wearing the clothing of period warriors.

Barry was a faithful participant in meetings of the York Pioneers and also served on its board of directors – representing the interests of the society with the Canadian National Exhibition Association and with the Toronto Historical Association.

But his true interest was Scadding Cabin. He was an enthusiastic volunteer during the CNE and Doors Open, welcoming visitors and explaining the challenges facing people during the early years of the Town of York, later the City of Toronto.

Barry would dress in the clothes of a 19th century farmer or, sometimes, the uniform of the Incorporated Militia of Upper Canada, a unit that defended the colony during the War of 1812. He and his wife Doreen, both in period costume, would welcome participants in the fall ghost walks, often providing dramatic presentations to represent the times.

He also studied tinsmithing and demonstrated the art at Scadding Cabin during the 2019 CNE and, more recently, writing a series of articles on the subject for *The Update*.

Volunteers and visitors will remember his good humour, plain talk and dedication to telling the stories of early settlement.

In the winter of 2022, Barry Mapes' health began to deteriorate. Despite medical care and surgery, he died this spring.



Left: Dressed as an 1800s farmer, Barry welcomed visitors to Scadding Cabin. **Right:** In 2013, wearing the uniform of an 1812-era militia unit, Barry welcomed former Mississauga chief Carolyn King to Scadding Cabin.

IN MEMORIAM

Michael Vaughan, life member of the York Pioneer & Historical Society and active supporter of the annual Jane's Walks, peacefully passed away on February 24, 2022. at his beloved home "Woodlawn", one of the oldest private homes in Toronto:

<https://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/theglobeandmail/name/michael-vaughan-obituary?pid=201468159>

Cheryl Robbins, beloved life partner of our president Fred. Representatives of the York Pioneers including past presidents John Marshall, Diane Reid and George Duncan, secretary Gerry Lee, and Cabin Chair Kayoko Smith, and Board Member Melissa Vella Singh attended her visitation:

<https://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/thestar/name/cheryl-robbins-obituary?pid=201717227>

The York Pioneer & Historical Society offers our condolences to families of Michael, Cheryl, and Barry.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

This is a friendly reminder to all existing members that annual memberships run from January 1st through to December 31st.

In 2022, the membership structure is as follows:

- Students: \$20
- Individual: \$30
- Family: \$50
- Life: \$300

Your membership fee will be put right to work, supporting the publication of "The York Pioneer"; helping to preserve our City's heritage and making it available for all to enjoy.

Please *renew your membership today* online through PayPal at:

<https://www.yorkpioneers.com/membership>

or *send us your cheque or money order today to:*

The York Pioneer and Historical Society
PO Box 186
260 Adelaide Street East
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Thank you!

Our Apologies welcoming these New Members in previous Update Issues!

William Smith Janis Clarke Katlyn Jones Angie Littlefield Miguel Narvaez
Gilles Huot Angela Carr Nancy Cunningham
Matthew Campbell Michael Hanson

And Our Apologies welcoming these New Life Members in previous Update Issues!

Victoria McKenzie Sandra McArthur Joy Cohnstaedt Donald Mitchell
Bruce McCowan Alice Mary McFall

Welcome Recent New Members!

David Chambers Michael Loader

Welcome Recent New Life Member!

Kathy Macpherson

Recent Renewals as Life Members!

Kayoko Smith Robert Jarvis Judith Watkins D'Arcy Boulton



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