

Support Required from CKL

The Board of the VCHS is before you today to request \$132,000.00 for operational funding, to hire a Museum Manager and a Curatorial/Collections Manager. This includes 13% related employment costs such as U.I. CPP and it includes \$2000.00 for staff training and professional development. This does not mean we do not need the larger funding proposal from our August submission. It does mean that we would ask you to plan for proper funding as outlined, and we will try it out for one year and re-evaluate in February of 2022.

The Volunteer Board is managing a community collection in this Museum on behalf of the people of the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Last August, we came before you to request core funding. You asked for and received the big picture request. Then you asked us to wait for Covid Relief Funding. Covid Relief funding does not address salary dollars.

Our volunteers are gone. The Board members themselves have put in the work to carry on the maintenance and preservation of this collection as best we can.

We have a collection of stories, articles, photographs, documents, textiles, glass, maps, artifacts, wood, furniture, and community donations that represent the history of this community. We have about 16,000 items in our collection. They all require research and preservation work. When you look at the operations of a museum, the resources required to manage the visitors is minimal in comparison to the work and resources required to maintain and manage the collection. Curatorial work is intense and expensive. Proper storage for these artifacts is required by legislation. People who are trained best to do this work are younger trained professionals, who know the Ontario Museum standards.

Imagine if you owned a house, three stories, 24,000 square feet. If I asked you to go in, clean it, maintain it, and research every article, appraise it, digitize it, accept new artifacts regularly, think about the resources it would take to do that on an ongoing basis. In addition, we are operating during Covid and must abide by all Covid protocols. This complicates and increases the work. You cannot have the workers side by side. If something needs moving, you must go about it differently. Everything has changed.

When we look at the pillars of this organization.... values, goals, planning, collaboration and partnerships, financial practices, we are in a very good place. The individuals involved are trustworthy, knowledgeable, experienced, integrated and aligned with other community organizations and well motivated to make this the best Museum it can be.

But we are missing something. We are missing the ability to pay people for their knowledge, ability, and commitment to the work. Thus, they will leave, as you have seen repeatedly over the years. This puts us at great risk in normal times. The stability of the organization, its Board, and the ability to manage day to day operations, the security of the collection is all at risk.

Just this week, two examples of the negative impacts resulting from lack of base funding are: 1. we were disqualified from receiving \$60,000 in Covid relief because we have no baseline staff dollars; and 2. we have been approved to receive \$17,000 to proceed with a Community Seniors Project but we cannot accept the funds because we need a Museum Manager on-site, to Manage and Supervise the personnel involved.

That is \$77,000 that we could have accessed to support our work, had we been able to show baseline salary funding dollars. This is a missed opportunity and not the way to manage this business successfully.

The last very critical point I want to make is that Funding Organizations /Foundations /Endowments do not fund non-profits where base salary dollars and Municipal support are not evident. They will not fund a volunteer Board of Directors. We have located and examined multiple funders and have not been able to apply. The McLean foundation has approved project work dollars but no salary dollars because we have no baseline funding. Who is going to do the work on the McCrae Collection? As a point of interest, this collection was in ROM for over 50 years! We are proud to have it and we are obligated to maintain it properly.

The entire landscape for Museums has changed. We need to function at a professional level, with organizational stability. Without this funding, the operation is not sustainable.

If you choose not to support our base funding needs, it is unlikely we will open the doors in 2021. This does not make sense and does not reflect what I, the Board or the citizens want for the City of Kawartha Lakes. Preservation of our history is at risk. Our largest tourist attraction is at risk.

We ask for your support. We will get on with the work. A year from now, (February 2022) we will be back to you to report how things are going and to lay out the plans for the upcoming years. We will continue to work in partnership with your staff to ensure the best outcomes for our community. Thank you!

Respectfully,

Jane Gregory-Gill, President

VCHS Board of Directors

50 Victoria Avenue North

Lindsay, ON K9V 4G3

705-324-3404



Request to Speak before Council

Request to Make a Deputation/Presentation to
Council/Committee
City of Kawartha Lakes
City Clerk's Office
26 Francis Street, PO Box 9000
Lindsay, ON K9V 5R8
705-324-9411

Name: *

Victoria County Historical Society O/A Olde Gaol Museum

Address: *

50 Victoria Avenue N

City/Town/Village:

Lindsay

Province: *

Ontario

Postal Code:

K9V 4G3

Telephone: *

705-324-3404

Email: *

Info@oldegaolmuseum.ca

There can be a maximum of two speakers for each deputation. Please list the name(s) of the individual(s) who will be speaking. The names that are listed here will be included on the Council Meeting Agenda.

Deputant One:

Jane Gregory-Gill

Deputant Two:

Barbara Doyle

Please provide details of the matter to which you wish to speak: *

To speak to the matter of the Lease Agreement for the museum and COVID-19 relief funding.

Please attach any additional supporting documents you wish to provide and submit with this completed form.

Have you discussed this matter with City Staff?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, Which department and staff member(s) have you spoken to?

What action are you hoping will result from your presentation/deputation? *

The Lease Agreement will be adopted by Council and either approval of relief funding or to refer to city staff for approval.

By signing this form you are acknowledging that all of the information you are providing on this form is true, and giving the City permission to collect your personal information for the principal purpose of a request to make a deputation to Committee or Council as outlined below.

Signature:

Jane Gregory-Gill

Date:

8/7/2020



The personal information is being collected by the City of Kawartha Lakes for the principal purpose of a request to make a deputation to Committee or Council pursuant to the City's procedural by-law. This information, including all attachments submitted may be circulated to members of Council, staff, the general public and posted on the City website. Questions about the collection of this information should be directed to the City Clerk or Deputy Clerk at 705 324-9411 ext. 1295 or 1322.

Do you understand how your information will be used and agree to allow the City to use your personal information provided on this form, including any attachments for the purposes of requesting to make a deputation to Committee or Council? *

☒ Yes

Please complete this form and return to the City Clerk's Office by submitting it online or:
Fax: 705-324-8110 Email: agendaitems@kawarthalakes.ca

