



## Council Report

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**Report Number:** CAO2025-003

**Meeting Date:** February 18, 2025

**Title:** **Partnership Agreement – Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives**

**Description:** Partnership Agreement between the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL) and Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives (KLMA) to deliver community museum programming, and structure municipal operating funding support.

**Author and Title:** Ron Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer

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### Recommendation(s):

**That** Report CAO2025-003, **Partnership Agreement – Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives**, be received;

**That** the Partnership Agreement, substantially in the form provided in Appendix A to Report CAO2025-003, be approved; and

**That** the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the Partnership Agreement with the Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

The City has provided the Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives (KLMA) with annual operating support funding of \$125,000 since 2023 (and in 2024 and 2025 budgets). KLMA has reported annually to Council on their operations and programs, and utilization of the City's support funding.

KLMA representatives last reported to Council at the November 12, 2024 Special Council budget meeting. A copy of that request and presentation is provided in Appendix B to this report.

Recognizing that the partnership includes a multi-year City funding commitment, it was recommended that the City and KLMA should enter into a more formal partnership agreement. This report brings forward to Council a recommended partnership agreement for approval.

## **Rationale:**

KLMA, renamed in 2022, is a rebranding of the Victoria County Historical Society (VCHS). VCHS began in 1957 and was incorporated as a not-for-profit in 1976 for the purposes of collecting, preserving, exhibiting and publishing of material pertaining to the City of Kawartha Lakes (formerly the County of Victoria with 16 lower tier municipalities).

KLMA, since 2011, remains the sole tenant in the "Olde Gaol", operating a museum, and storing, preserving, sharing and managing their private archives and collection. The City is the owner of the building and surrounding lands.

There is an active lease agreement between KLMA and CKL, to a term ending in 2041. That agreement continues to be in place, guiding tenancy and building use requirements. The City continues to invest annually in the upkeep of the existing building and surrounding lands to maintain the City-owned asset in a state of good repair. A copy of that agreement is attached at Appendix C.

Council has committed to current and future funding of KLMA for museum operations. It is therefore appropriate to establish funding and partner expectations, including reporting, through an agreement (see Appendix A).

The initial recommended agreement has a three-year term (2025 to 2027), which is not inclusive of funding provided in 2023 & 2024. The intent is to revisit and update partnership arrangements at least each term of Council.

For 2025, KLMA will receive \$125,000. Starting in 2026, a 3% annual escalation is applied.

### **Other Alternatives Considered:**

No other alternative has been considered, as Council has already committed operating funding for KLMA.

### **Alignment to Strategic Priorities**

Formalizing this partnership with KLMA contributes to the strategic priority of Good Government, and specifically the stated action of "... collaborate with other community builders, partners and institutions." Strategic investments in heritage, culture and tourism partners contributes greatly to a Vibrant and Growing Economy.

### **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

This agreement outlines funding committed to KLMA to continue to provide and expand local museum programming to the benefit of the City and local economy. This agreement is also intended to identify reporting and deliverables for funding in an accountable and transparent manner.

### **Consultations:**

City Solicitor  
Director, Corporate Services  
Director, Community Services  
Manager, Economic Development  
Manager, Buildings and Property  
Managing Director, Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – DRAFT Partnership Agreement – Kawartha Lakes Museum & Archives



Partnership  
Agreement - Kawartha

Appendix B – Support for Operational Funding Request, dated November 12, 2024



Appendix B - Support  
for Operational Fundi

## Appendix C – Lease Agreement



Appendix C - Lease  
Agreement

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**Department Head: Ron Taylor, CAO**