

Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting

*** AGENDA ***

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

****START TIME 6:00 p.m.****

1. Disclosure of pecuniary interest.
2. Motion: Approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held June 4th, 2025.
3. Staff Updates:
 - a. Building & Maintenance
 - b. Event Planning

Motion: That the Nipissing Township Museum host two activity days on Saturday July 19th and Thursday August 7th, 2025 and that funds from the Museum Program budget be used to purchase supplies for the events.

- c. Artifact Status Report
- d. Exhibits
- e. Strategic Plan Update

4. Motion: Adjourn.

Board meetings will be held in person at 2381 Highway 654, Township of Nipissing Community Centre and virtually utilizing the Zoom platform; and will be livestreamed to the Township of Nipissing YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2XSMZqRNHbwVppelfKcEXw>

MINUTES

Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management
June 4, 2025

A regular meeting of the Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management was held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 starting at 6:01 p.m.

The meeting was held in person at the Township of Nipissing Community Centre, 2381 Hwy 654.

Present: Chair Jane Aultman, Mayor Dave Yemm, Gladys Bateman, and Debbie Rennette.

Staff: Gillian Bernas, Museum Manager; Kim Turnbull, Deputy Treasurer - Office Assistant and Secretary to the Museum Board

Regrets: Councillor Steve Kirkey

Absent: Mary Heasman

Disclosure of pecuniary interests – none

MOTION NUMBER 2025 - 11

Moved by: Dave Yemm

Seconded by: Debbie Rennette

That we approve the Minutes of the Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting held May 7, 2025, as presented. **Carried.**

Staff Updates:

- **Building & Maintenance**

- The Office/Candy Store building has been given the ok from the Engineer to open for the season.
- Public Works has been prepping the building getting the air conditioning and water set-up.

- **Event Planning:**

- A Shared Event poster has been developed with the Recreation Committee and distributed to the camps.
- **Powassan & District Library** - Museum exhibit has been set up with the games the students created last season: Snakes and Ladders, Biodiversity Card game along with items from our Collection.
- Nipissing Township Museum Games Night – Thursday June 19th – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Discussion about donating merchandise or candy from the Nipissing Museum to the Powassan Library for the Games Night.
- **SummerFest** – discussion about staff attending the event hosted by the Commanda Museum on Saturday July 26th
- Bringing items from the Museum's collection along with the games, Gillian to check on the space available for the Museum to use at the event.
- Event runs from noon – 8 p.m. source pop up tents for the event.
- Discussion about participation in a lip synch for staff and Board members following the event if this occurs, more details to follow.

MOTION NUMBER 2025-12**Moved by: Dave Yemm****Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

THAT the Nipissing Township Museum be closed on Saturday July 26th, 2025 and for staff to attend and participate at SummerFest hosted by the Commanda Museum and showcase items from the Nipissing Township Museum. **Carried.**

MOTION NUMBER 2025-13**Moved by: Debbie Rennette****Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

THAT staff invite the Commanda Museum to participate in the Heritage Day Celebration on August 17th, 2025 at the Nipissing Township Museum. **Carried.**

MOTION NUMBER 2025-14**Moved by: Gladys Bateman****Seconded by: Dave Yemm**

THAT the Nipissing Township Museum Board donate merchandise from the Nipissing Township Museum to the Commanda Museum for the silent auction at SummerFest. **Carried.**

- **Tea and Talk Event** - request for Board members to distribute the event poster to advertise the event.
- **Heritage Day** – draft of flyer for review
- Discussion about donations for the silent auction and what has occurred historically to obtain donations. May look at alternate options for next year for support.

MOTION NUMBER 2025-15**Moved by: Dave Yemm****Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

TO approve the Heritage Day flyer for 2025. **Carried.**

- Discussion about live band options for Heritage Day.
- Gladys to contact Timber R Country to see about availability.

MOTION NUMBER 2025-16**Moved by: Dave Yemm****Seconded by: Debbie Rennette**

THAT the Nipissing Township Museum Board approve hiring a live band for the Heritage Day event to a maximum for \$500.00. **Carried.**

MOTION NUMBER 2025-17**Moved by: Dave Yemm****Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

THAT the Nipissing Museum Board donate prizes to the Powassan and District Library for the Nipissing Township Museum Board Game Night being held on June 19th, 2025. **Carried.**

- **Artifact Status Report** – Cataloguing into PastPerfect has been paused at this time during exhibit planning.
 - Request to remove the artifacts from the Community Centre, as the Recreation Committee requires the space. These collections will take priority in cataloguing.
 - Request to have board members assist with moving the pieces back to the Museum.

- **Exhibits:**

- Researching for the Tea and Talk Event
- Creating interactive questions and answers to be set-up on the tables for visitors to learn about maple syrup production.
- Artifacts that relate to maple syrup production will be featured at the event.
- Discussion on the Vision for Permanent Exhibits for the next 5 years at the Museum.

- **Strategic Plan Update**

- Advised the Board on items that have been completed and are ongoing as part of the Strategic plan.

Discussion – Tea and Talk – prep on Saturday July 12th to complete the baking at the Community Centre, anyone who is available to assist can attend, timing to be confirmed closer to the date.

MOTION NUMBER 2025-18

Moved by: Dave Yemm

Seconded by: Gladys Bateman

That the Board meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:39 p.m. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 2, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. **Carried.**

Chairperson:

Secretary:

Minutes prepared as per Section 228 (1)(a) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25.

Clerk to record, without note or comment, all resolutions, decisions and other proceedings of the council.

Minutes to be approved by the Board at the next scheduled Board Meeting.

July Museum Manager's Report 2025

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

We received approval to open the Gift Shop/Office to the public providing that certain repairs to the foundation are done. However, we are waiting on the availability of a contractor to take on the repairs. In the meantime, a selection of merchandise from the Gift Shop has been installed in the church (staff will replenish the stock as needed) along with the debit machine & cash register.

Staff can safely continue to work in the Office/Gift Shop Building and use the bathroom & kitchen facilities. A work station/reception desk is set up in the church as well, and at least one of the staff will work out of that building. There will be signs directing visitors there from the parking lot.

We will be renting a Port-a john for July & August (to accommodate for events).

EVENTS UPDATE

Powassan Library Games Night

There was only one family that attended the event briefly. The heavy rain likely discouraged visitors. We may be able to target a different demographic by holding a similar event at a different time of day (ex. afternoon during the week for retirees). There was some interest in the games that were placed in the gallery – at least one person asked if they could purchase a copy – but they didn't get much use, possibly because most of the exhibits that go into that gallery are "Do Not Touch" exhibits, so not many people brought their kids into the space?

The small prize packs that were taken to the Library for the event were donated to the Powassan Library to use as they see fit, as a thank you for hosting and advertising the event.

Tea & Talk

Exhibits

- Tom Morrow will be bringing some information on how to start maple syrup in your backyard.
- Lori Costello from Bella Hill will be bring her collection of vintage and modern spiles and collection buckets.

Food

- Bella Hill will be donating 2 Litres of Maple Syrup to use to bake the food for the event.
- 1 Flat of berries has been ordered from Leisure Farms to be picked up Friday July 11, between 9am-6pm
- Dual Rills Farm has offered to donate the bacon for the sandwiches and the eggs for the scones.
- Several other farms have been contacted regarding ingredients.
- Jane Aultman is donating the pastry ingredients for the vegetable tarts.

Activity Days at the Museum

In order to try and bring in more visitors, either repeat visitors, or to people who maybe aren't interested in the museum per se, we would like to start doing different activities, relevant to history, but that might still appeal to a wider audience.

Butter Making

Saturday July 19, 10 am to Noon. Registration required, cost 5\$ per participant. Each participant will get their own small mason jar of cream, which they will have to shake to separate the butterfat from the buttermilk. We will have some herbs and garlic and spices that people can choose to mix in. the Museum will provide bread & maybe jam for participants to taste test their butter with and whatever they don't eat at the event they can take home with them in their jar.

We have poster for this event to go out.

Make Your Own Basket

Thursday August 7, 1pm – 3pm. Registration required, cost 10\$ per participant. Each participant will get to take home whatever they've made. We will have a selection of materials pre-prepared including rope and fabric scraps so participants can customize their creations (will ask community to donate largish fabric scraps). Museum Staff will make demonstration pieces to show participants, which will be placed in the Silent Auction at Heritage Day.

Stitch & Sip in the Gazebo

There is the crazy quilt that was begun as a demonstration piece at the museum and when finished can be put in the Museum's silent auction for Heritage Day (either this year or next) – anyone who participates and works on the museum projects or donates something can have a free coffee/tea/lemonade, or they can bring their own stitching/knitting/crochet/craft project and just spend time together. All ages welcome, instruction/demonstration provided. If no one comes then no resources are wasted as beverages will only be made if people come and otherwise will be used at other events. All Ages welcome & staff can provide instruction/demonstration.

Wednesday Afternoons 1pm-3pm Drop in (No Registration)

Heritage Day

Posters to Distribute as soon as the Tea & Talk event is over.

Bob Bartlett has agreed to come to do a blacksmithing demonstration and will hopefully be able to demonstrate how to hand forge nails in order to tie into the theme "Building the Homestead."

ARTIFACT STATUS REPORT

Cataloguing and Record Consolidation is on hold while preparing to open for season, organising events and creating new exhibits for the season.

Objects offered to Museum

Phil Rimmer has offered 2 objects for our collection: an outboard motor that was manufactured in Barrie, ON. And a paper mache duck decoy.

The outboard motor is a 1960 Viking that was manufactured in Barrie, ON and was used by Phil in the West arm of Lake Nipissing for fishing and duck hunting. It is different enough in design to not be redundant to the collection, however I am reluctant to recommend accessioning an artifact that is going to be displayed out of doors as there is not currently enough space to have these items in the hardware store while open to the public.

Although the museum does have a large number of duck decoys, all are wooden. The Paper Mache decoys were common in the post Second-World War area and it is a relevant demonstration of how the popularity and availability of materials was affected by the global conflicts. Again, it was used for duck hunting in the area. I recommend accepting 1 decoy.

Motion to decide whether these items will be accepted or not will be during the August Meeting

EXHIBITS

Maple Syrup Exhibit for July 13th (will be out of doors for the Tea & Talk Event, otherwise installed in Hardware Store for this season).

The Snakes & Ladders game has been set up in the church for people to play anytime.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

No update currently.

Artifacts

I have a 1960 Viking outboard for possible donation to the Nipissing Museum. The motor was made in Barrie Ontario. I have used the motor in the Barrie area, the West Arm of lake Nipissing for both fishing and duck hunting. The motor runs but the gear shift is not reliable as I hit a log while heading out to Cache Bay one dark fall morning fully loaded for waterfowl. Once retired, I thought I would restore it, but would consider a museum donation if space allows.

Also, could donate a paper mâché decoy to augment your collection. These types of decoys were used post wooden dekes and pre-plastic or rubber decoys.

I have enclosed photos of both.

Sincerely, Phil Rimmer



MAKE YOUR OWN BUTTER

Butter is a dairy product made from churning cream, separating the fat from the buttermilk.

ALL MATERIALS
PROVIDED!
FUN FOR ALL AGES!
TAKE HOME YOUR
OWN
JAR OF BUTTER!



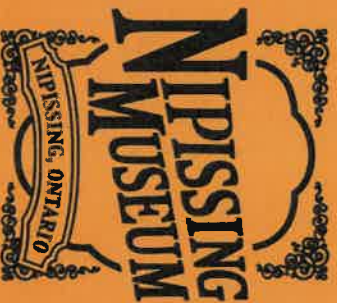
At the NIPISSING MUSEUM

Homemade Butter "The Old Fashioned Way"

Join us for a hands-on, family-friendly activity where you'll learn how to make fresh butter the old-fashioned way!

Dress it up with herbs, garlic, etc. or leave it plain!

Taste Test With Bread & Jam!



4363 HIGHWAY 654,
NIPISSING



**\$5.00 PER
PERSON**

JULY 19, 2025

10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Pre-Registration Recommended!

Please Call or Email

705-724-2144

info@nipissingtownship.com

Please Included In Registration:
Name, Age, Phone Number, Email



MOTION

DATE: July 2, 2025

MOTION NUMBER: 2025-20

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

THAT the Nipissing Township Museum host two activity days on Saturday July 19th and Thursday August 7th, 2025
AND THAT the funds from the Museum Program budget be used to purchase supplies for the event.

For Against

J. Aultman		
G. Bateman		
M. Heasman		
S. Kirkey		
D. Rennette		
D. Yemm		
Vacant		

Carried

Chairperson:



MOTION

DATE: July 2, 2025

MOTION NUMBER: 2025-21

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

THAT the Board meeting is hereby adjourned at _____. Next meeting will be held Wednesday August 6th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

For Against

J. Aultman		
G. Bateman		
M. Heasman		
S. Kirkey		
D. Rennette		
D. Yemm		
Vacant		

Carried

Chairperson: