

MINUTES

Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management
May 13, 2026

A regular meeting of the Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management was held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 starting at 6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Chair Jane Aultman, Gladys Bateman, Councillor Stephen Kirkey, Debbie Renette, and Mayor Dave Yemm.

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

Regrets: Mary Heasman and Alma Rice

Disclosure of pecuniary interests – none

MOTION NUMBER 2026-06

Moved by: Steve Kirkey

Seconded by: Dave Yemm

That we approve the Minutes of the Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting held April 1, 2026, as presented. **Carried.**

Staff Updates:

• Building and Maintenance

- The building has been inspected. The Engineer is in the process of completing the report.
- Request to have grass seed planted on the side of the building where the renovations occurred.

• Event Planning

- Bernadette Kerr has agreed to make the bread for the Butter Making events. Cost for the bread is reasonable and the amount of bread provided to the Museum is sufficient to cover the events. Butter events taking place on July 2 and 4.
- Discussion on moving the first Butter Making event to another date, first date is on opening date. Hosting the event on the opening date, may draw people to the Museum which is a weekday.
- Ensuring there is enough volunteers/board members to assist with the event, as it will be the first day of work for the students.
- Decision to move forward with the Butter Making event on July 2nd, as advertised.
- Rope Crafts – distributed poster for the events.
- Gillian will bring items for Butter Making, Ice Cream Making and the Rope Crafts in advance of the June Board meeting for Board members to get comfortable with the workshop items. An instruction sheet has been prepared for the Butter Making event.
- Heritage Day – Country Reruns and Friends have agreed to provide the live music for the event. Fee is typically \$550 however, will provide music for \$500, as the band members are provided lunch during the event.

MOTION NUMBER 2026-07

Moved by: Debbie Rennette

Seconded by: Dave Yemm

That the Nipissing Township Museum Board approve the event fee of \$500.00 for the Country Reruns and Friends for Heritage Day. **Carried.**

- Bob Bartlett has agreed to attend and provide a Blacksmith demonstration during the event.
- An invitation has been sent to Dokis First Nation and Nipissing First Nation to bring a display and participate at the event. Waiting for a response.
- Event in the past has run from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. discussion to change the time or continue with the same timing. Event will run from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. this year.
- BBQ – discussion about continuing with donation for BBQ items or moving back to set prices. In reviewing the revenue generated in 2025 donations made the same or more than set prices. Continuing with donations in 2026 allows for participants to donate what they are able.
- Food items to include hot dogs, hamburgers, sausages and a vegetarian item. Drinks – teas, coffee, cold coffee and lemonade. Discussion to include a dessert at this time, having bags of chips is a better option and went over well last year.
- Identify where the donations are going to - Church windows, this allows those donating to know where funds are being allocated to.
 - Investigate into Grant opportunities that may be available for historical windows for the Church Building.
- Invite Craft Vendors to participate during Heritage Day – instead of charging a fee request a donation to the silent auction or a donation to the museum.
- Craft Fair Competition – an item created (craft, poem, drawing etc.) that relates to the history of the Township or relates to one of the exhibits of the museum. Accept items throughout the season and display them in the Office Building. Items will need to be dropped of by a certain date. Discussion to have Board or Community Members vote on the items, decided Community Members vote on the items. Winner announced on Heritage Day. Age categories discussed and decided to go with K – grade 3, grade 4-6 and grade 7-8. To promote the interest in the Museum and history of the Township. Provide colouring pages for younger children.
- Further discussion about activities to bring to Heritage Day, decided to move forward with the ones already planned.
- Discussion about the silent auction and reaching out to businesses that have provided donations in the past.

• **Artifact Status Report**

- Nothing to report at this time.
- Cataloguing and data entry will resume during the Museum season.

• **Exhibit Update**

- Continuing to work on 'The Waterway Journey to Nipissing' the theme for Heritage Day and the Remembrance Interactive exhibit program.

- **Strategic Plan Update**
 - No further update at this time.

MOTION NUMBER 2026-08

Moved by: Gladys Bateman

Seconded by: Steve Kirkey

THAT the Board meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:41 p.m. Next meeting will be held Wednesday June 3, 2026 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.