



## **Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting**

**\*\*\* AGENDA \*\*\***

**Wednesday, October 7, 2026**

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

1. Disclosure of pecuniary interest.
2. Motion: Approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held September 2, 2026
3. Staff Updates:
  - a. Financial Statistics
  - b. Building & Maintenance
  - c. Events

Motion: Approve the theme for Heritage Day 2027.

Discussion: Workshops for 2027.

Motion: Approve the donation of museum magnets from the gift shop to the Township of Nipissing 2026 Christmas Run.

Motion: Approve the donation of four Streams and Ladders games to the Powassan and District Union Public Library.

- d. Artifact Status Report

Motion: To approve the deaccession and removal of the thrasher from the Township of Nipissing Museum.

- e. Exhibits
- f. Strategic Plan Update

4. Board Discussion: New Business and Future Events.
5. 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>

*4363 Highway 654  
General Delivery  
Nipissing, ON P0H 1W0  
705-724-2938 Phone  
museum@nipissingtownship.com*



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-26

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

THAT we approve the Minutes of the Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting held September 2, 2026 as presented.

|                    | For | Against |
|--------------------|-----|---------|
| <b>J. Aultman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>G. Bateman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>M. Heasman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>S. Kirkey</b>   |     |         |
| <b>D. Rennette</b> |     |         |
| <b>A. Rice</b>     |     |         |
| <b>D. Yemm</b>     |     |         |

Carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson:

## MINUTES

Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management  
September 2, 2026

A regular meeting of the Nipissing Township Museum Board of Management was held on Wednesday, September 2, 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 Rennette and Mayor Dave Yemm.

**Staff:** Gillian Bernas, Museum Manager; Kris Croskery-Hodgins, Municipal Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer and Kim Turnbull, Deputy Treasurer-Office Assistant, Secretary to the Museum Board

**Regrets:** Mary Heasman

**Absent:** Alma Rice

Disclosure of pecuniary interests – none

### MOTION NUMBER 2026-17

**Moved by: Steve Kirkey**

**Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

That is part of our meeting will be closed to the public as authorized by Section 239 (3.1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25, for consideration of the following subject matter: Educational or training sessions. Purpose of this closed session: Training regarding Council and Committee Procedures. Time 6:01 p.m. **Carried.**

### MOTION NUMBER 2026-18

**Moved by: Dave Yemm**

**Seconded by: Debbie Rennette**

That we resume to an open public meeting. Time 6:25 p.m. **Carried.**

### MOTION NUMBER 2026-19

**Moved by: Steve Kirkey**

**Seconded by: Dave Yemm**

That we approve the Minutes of the Nipissing Township Museum Board Meeting held August 5, 2026 as presented. **Carried.**

Minutes were amended to provide clarification.

### Staff Updates:

- **Financial and Visitor Statistics**

#### Revenue & Financial Statistics

Revenue August

| Candy     | Merchandise | Donations | Special events | Total       |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| \$ 253.00 | \$ 402.50   | \$ 995.45 | \$ 645.00      | \$ 2,295.95 |

#### Total Revenue 2026 Season

| Candy     | Merchandise | Donations   | Special events | Total       |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| \$ 475.75 | \$ 874.50   | \$ 6,615.35 | \$ 955.00      | \$ 8,920.60 |

#### Visitor Statistics

##### August

| Both | Museum | Store | Total |
|------|--------|-------|-------|
| 174  | 45     | 38    | 257   |

##### Total Visitors 2026 Season

| Both | Museum | Store | Total |
|------|--------|-------|-------|
| 331  | 64     | 60    | 455   |

#### MOTION NUMBER 2026-20

**Moved by: Steve Kirkey**

**Seconded by: Dave Yemm**

That the donation from the Knox United Church in the amount of \$5000.00 be allocated towards the replacement of the church windows. **Carried.**

Discussion: Board members attended the Knox United church in 2023 with a trustee member to review items for consideration for donation to the Museum. The minutes from August 2, 2023 list the items from the Knox United Church reviewed from Board members to be accepted by the Museum.

- **Building and Maintenance**

#### MOTION NUMBER 2026-21

**Moved by: Dave Yemm**

**Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

That the Board approve the removal of the cedar rail fence and place low concrete barriers along the parking lot to improve safety and property maintenance. **Carried.**

Discussion: The removal of the fence will require a new place for the open sign to be displayed. Gillian will present sign options at the upcoming budget meetings.

- **Events**

- The support and assistance from the Museum Board members contributed significantly to the success of the 2026 events.
- Workshops – the Museum hosted 5 out of 6 workshops planned this season with a total of 70 participants.
- **Heritage Day** – approximately 125-140 in attendance.
  - a total of 105 meals were cooked and served; 40 hamburgers, 15 sausages, 50 hot dogs and 0 veggie burgers.
  - Craft vendors – indicated it was a successful event for them and indicated an interest in returning to future events at the museum.

- Silent Auction – 16 lots for the auction, higher value items had a minimum bid. One item did not receive the minimum bid; the auction was extended to the end of the season and received a successful bid.

#### **MOTION NUMBER 2026-22**

**Moved by: Dave Yemm**

**Seconded by: Steve Kirkey**

THAT the Board approves the donation of merchandise from the Nipissing Township Museum to the Heritage Day Event on August 9, 2026. **Carried.**

#### **MOTION NUMBER 2026-23**

**Moved by: Debbie Rennette**

**Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

THAT the remaining candy from the store be donated to the Township of Nipissing Fire Department for their Halloween Event. **Carried.**

Discussion: Theme for Heritage Day 2027 Nipissing Nostalgia; a celebration of the Museum's past events, showcase photos and the family binder, etc.

Action: Board members to bring theme ideas for Heritage Day 2027 to the October 7, 2026 Board meeting for discussion.

- **Collections/Artifact Status Report**

- Information on a Second World War Helmet for acceptance of donation.

#### **MOTION NUMBER 2026-24**

**Moved by: Dave Yemm**

**Seconded by: Steve Kirkey**

THAT the Second World War Helmet be accepted for donation to the Nipissing Township Museum and be added to the Collections Catalogue. **Carried.**

- **Exhibits**

- "Remembering the First World War Interactive Exhibit" was well received. There were 2 elements, medical focus and a deck of cards focusing on the experiences of the day-to-day life.
- Journey to Nipissing via the Waterways of Ontario – was printed and installed in the Gift Shop. Some updates will be completed in 2027.
- Fire and Police exhibit has been installed in the Church building, modified from the Fall Community Celebration.

- **Strategic Plan**

- Review of the Strategic Plan. Strategic Initiatives, status update and next steps. Discussed the accomplishments of the Museum and Board and items that are still ongoing or in progress.

- **Board Discussion – New Business and Future Events**

- Pre-event have the grass cut at the Museum.
  - This has been addressed.
- A Special Museum Board Meeting in November to review the budget and orient new Museum Board members.

**MOTION NUMBER 2026-25**

**Moved by: Debbie Rennette**

**Seconded by: Gladys Bateman**

THAT the Board meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:04p.m. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 7, 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.

# October 2026 Museum Manager's Report

## Financial & Visitor Statistics

Nothing to report at this time.

## Building & Maintenance

Nothing to report at this time.

## Events

### Heritage Day 2027 Theme

Approve a theme for Heritage Day 2027.

### Workshops at the Museum 2027

Workshop Ideas:

- Ice cream (repetition of the 2026 workshop)
- Air dry clay (Homemade salt clay) using homemade plant-based dyes
- Song workshop – All Ages, no experience needed
- Cardboard loom coaster weaving

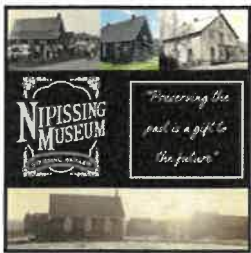
## Donations of Museum Gift Items to Local Organizations and Events

The following proposed donations will contribute to an increased awareness of the Nipissing Township Museum and its collections within the community of the Township of Nipissing and the surrounding areas, hopefully encouraging people to visit the museum in the future, therefore contributing to the museum's strategic initiative of "creating a greater presence in our community."

### 2026 Township of Nipissing Fire Department Christmas Run

It is proposed that the Nipissing Township Museum donate a number of the museum's fridge magnets as gifts to the 2026 Christmas Run, to be included with each family package. Depending on the number of registrations for the event this could be between 50-80 magnets.

The original cost per magnet was \$1.04. Therefore, the maximum cost of this donation would be \$83.20 total.



### Powassan and District Union Library

It is proposed that the Nipissing Township Museum donate 4 copies of the Streams and Ladders Game to the Powassan and District Union Library to be used as they see fit, as lending material or to be given away as part of their own events.

As the production costs of the Streams and Ladders Games were covered by the Township of Nipissing Fire Department and the copies remaining after the 2025 Christmas Run were donated to the Museum by the Fire Department, there would be no cost to the museum to make this donation.

## Artifact Status Report

### Catalogue Records Consolidation Update

Records continue to be added and updated in the PastPerfect Database on an ongoing basis when time permits. To date there are close to 800 records in the database.

### Proposal to Deaccession the Thresher (also known as Threshing Machine or Thrasher)



#### Documentation

Donnie Kitchen donated the Thrasher to the Museum around 2016/2017. No records regarding the provenance of the threshing machine have yet been found at the museum. Because the threshing machine (also called a thresher or a thrasher) is believed to have been accepted as an artifact donation by the museum, the threshing machine will be accessioned into the collection and documented in our PastPerfect Catalogue.

#### Reasoning for the Deaccessioning of the Threshing Machine

- It has no known historical provenance relating to the Township of Nipissing or surrounding area.
- The Nipissing Township Museum does not have adequate resources or shelter to properly store the object and protect it from significant and ongoing degradation as a result of constant exposure to the elements and high levels of relative humidity (covering outdoor objects with tarps can also contribute to the trapping of moisture creating a microclimate of higher humidity). Previously, the Museum Board rejected an item of similar size and materials on the basis of the museum's inability to properly house and preserve the item despite the clear local historical significance to the area.
- As it degrades, the threshing machine may become a potential health and safety hazard.
- As it degrades, it may become more and more difficult to safely remove the threshing machine from the museum property at a later date.

#### Potential Methods of Disposition

If, upon evaluation, the threshing machine is in good enough condition to be donated to another museum or cultural institution, this would be the preferred method of disposal, if it is possible to find a museum that is willing to accept and retrieve the threshing machine from Nipissing. If no other museum is able to accept the threshing machine as an artifact, the threshing machine can be sold at public auction, which can be done online. In the event that there are funds generated by the auction of this object, they would need to be directed specifically towards Collections Management Expenses. In the event that the condition of the threshing machine is deemed too poor to be donated to another museum or to be sold at live auction, the threshing machine would be disposed of through the Township of Nipissing's Waste Management Facilities.

### Exhibits

Nothing to report at this time.

### Strategic Plan Update

Nothing to report at this time.



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-27

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

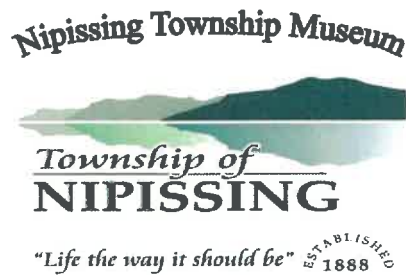
THAT the Heritage Day 2027 Theme shall be \_\_\_\_\_.

### For Against

|                    |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| <b>J. Aultman</b>  |  |  |
| <b>G. Bateman</b>  |  |  |
| <b>M. Heasman</b>  |  |  |
| <b>S. Kirkey</b>   |  |  |
| <b>D. Rennette</b> |  |  |
| <b>D. Yemm</b>     |  |  |
| <b>Vacant</b>      |  |  |

Carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson:



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-28

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

THAT the Board approves the donation of approximately 50-80 museum magnets from the gift shop to the Township of Nipissing 2026 Christmas Run.

|             | For | Against |
|-------------|-----|---------|
| J. Aultman  |     |         |
| G. Bateman  |     |         |
| M. Heasman  |     |         |
| S. Kirkey   |     |         |
| D. Rennette |     |         |
| A. Rice     |     |         |
| D. Yemm     |     |         |

Carried

Chairperson:



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-29

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

THAT the Board approves the donation of four Streams and Ladders games to the Powassan and District Union Public Library.

|                    | For | Against |
|--------------------|-----|---------|
| <b>J. Aultman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>G. Bateman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>M. Heasman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>S. Kirkey</b>   |     |         |
| <b>D. Rennette</b> |     |         |
| <b>A. Rice</b>     |     |         |
| <b>D. Yemm</b>     |     |         |

Carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson:



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-30

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

THAT the Board approve the deaccession and removal of the thrasher from the Township of Nipissing Museum.

|                    | For | Against |
|--------------------|-----|---------|
| <b>J. Aultman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>G. Bateman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>M. Heasman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>S. Kirkey</b>   |     |         |
| <b>D. Rennette</b> |     |         |
| <b>D. Yemm</b>     |     |         |
| <b>Vacant</b>      |     |         |

Carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson:



## MOTION

**DATE:** October 7, 2026

**MOTION NUMBER:** 2026-31

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

THAT the Board meeting is hereby adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_. Next meeting date to be scheduled following the regular meeting of Council in November 2026.

|                    | For | Against |
|--------------------|-----|---------|
| <b>J. Aultman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>G. Bateman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>M. Heasman</b>  |     |         |
| <b>S. Kirkey</b>   |     |         |
| <b>D. Rennette</b> |     |         |
| <b>A. Rice</b>     |     |         |
| <b>D. Yemm</b>     |     |         |

Carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson: