

This meeting of the Heritage Toronto Board was held on September 15, 2021 from 6-7:30pm. As per direction by the City of Toronto in accordance with Toronto Public Health guidelines, this meeting was held remotely via Zoom video call.

PRESENT: Liza Chalaidopoulos (Chair) Peter Berton
 Fallon Butler Juliet French
 Martin Green Peggy Hornell
 Jeff Junke Louis Kan
 Sean Kheraj James Lane
 Aaron Sanderson Sandy Kedey
 Linda Strachan Leslie Thompson
 Karen Whaley

REGRETS: Councillor Mike Colle

 Lori Davison
 Councillor Paula Fletcher
 Juliet French
 Martin Green
 Peter Ignazi
 Jeff Junke
 Linda Strachan

ALSO PRESENT: Allison Bain, Executive Director
 Chris Bateman, Manager, Plaques and Public Education
 Laura Carlson, Manager, Public Programs
 Lucy Di Pietro, Manager, Marketing and Communications
 Steven Kellier, Public Programs Coordinator
 Heather Kingdon, Operations Coordinator
 Candice McCavitt, Manager, Development
 Carolina Salinas, Social Media Coordinator

A. OPENING REMARKS, AGENDA, AND MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Liza Chalaidopoulos called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Ms. Chalaidopoulos made an Indigenous land acknowledgement to start the meeting.

3. Introductions and Opening Remarks by Chair and Executive Director

Ms. Chalaidopoulos welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their time. Further to comments raised by a Board member, she noted that 2022 Board meeting dates will not be scheduled on any major religious holidays.

She noted that it was great to see everyone and thanked those who had already attended a tour this season, whether virtually or in-person, as a Board Member representative or as a participant. She encouraged everyone to sign up for a tour.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos personally thanked the plaques department for their great work, noting that she was able to attend a few recent events such as the Beverly Mascoll, Joshua Glover, and Billy McKay plaque unveilings.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos thanked everyone working on the Awards program as well as the Heritage Toronto website, which was showing great traffic numbers and engagement based on the statistics that Lucy Di Pietro provided.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos thanked the whole HT team for the work they have been doing and noted that we are seeing great results of this work.

4. Approval of Agenda

HT 21-16: APPROVAL OF AGENDA for the September 15, 2021 Board Meeting of Heritage Toronto. **(carried)**

Moved by Peter Berton, seconded by Aaron Sanderson, and approved unanimously.

5. Declarations of Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6. Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

HT 21-17: ADOPTION OF MINUTES of the meeting of the Board of Heritage Toronto held July 14, 2021. **(carried)**

Moved by Leslie Thompson, seconded by Sandy Kedey, and approved unanimously.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Allison Bain introduced Carolina Salinas to the board. Carolina is an Emerging Historian and Heritage Toronto's Social Media Coordinator until the end of 2021.

Ms. Bain provided an operational update, noting that the agency does its best to mirror the actions of the City of Toronto in various circumstances, including its actions in response to COVID-19. Staff continue to work remotely, and are required to declare that they are fully vaccinated.

Ms. Bain noted the ongoing challenge to produce new content, based on limited agency resources and limited community capacity. This was an issue, flagged by Lori Davison and the Marketing and Digital Board Committee, as the agency had no new programming scheduled for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and was planning to run a Good Eats tour that day. Ms. Bain noted that Ms. Davison and the Committee were correct to flag this issue and apologized. The agency made the immediate decision that the Good Eats tour scheduled for that day would be cancelled if no new Indigenous programming could be created. Fortunately, the agency was able to confirm a partnership with Jeremie Caribou, who will be hosting a virtual presentation on the legacy of residential schools on September 30th as part of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Chris Bateman gave a plaques update and thanked Ms. Chalaidopoulos for her time and effort in representing the board at recent unveilings. Mr. Bateman noted two upcoming plaques projects:

- The plaques department is considering a plaque for the photographer Faye Schulman, who documented Nazi atrocities and the Jewish resistance on the Eastern Front during the Second World War. Mr. Bateman thanked Leslie Thompson for bringing forth this subject for further research.
- Two new Legacy Plaques have been recommended: one on Louise Bennett-Coverley, also known as “Miss Lou” — a Jamaican-born poet celebrated for her use of patois; and Rubin “Hurricane” Carter, who was wrongfully convicted of murder in the United States and became an advocate for the wrongfully convicted in Canada.

Laura Carlson gave an update on Tours and Awards programming. She noted the 2021 virtual Heritage Toronto Awards are just over one month away and the host of CBC Metro Morning, Ismaila Alfa, has agreed to be the MC.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos noted that there have been some great posts on social media recently about the nominees and commended Ms. Di Pietro and the Marketing and Digital Media Committee for their work. Ms. Chalaidopoulos encouraged members of the Board to actively follow and engage with Heritage Toronto on social media.

1. HT 21-18: APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA **(carried)**
Moved by Karen Whaley, seconded by Aaron Sanderson, and approved unanimously.

C. REPORTS

1. Finance and Audit Committee

1.1 Financial Statement as of July 31, 2021

Louis Kan reviewed the Financial Statement as of July 31, 2021. He noted that the agency is projecting very close to the budget approved in April. Mr. Kan reminded the

Board that current actuals are not an accurate reflection of year end position as, although revenue is received earlier in the year, associated expenses are not incurred until late in the year.

Mr. Kan noted that the 2022 Budget submitted to the City in August has assumed a complete recovery post-pandemic. This projected budget is also reliant on stable city funding levels and using a portion of the agency's surpluses from past years. Details will be provided to the Board when the 2022 budget is presented for approval at the April Board meeting.

HT 21-19: APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT 2022 OPERATING BUDGET SUBMITTED TO THE CITY OF TORONTO (carried)

Moved by Aaron Sanderson, seconded by Leslie Thompson, and approved unanimously.

2. Development Committee

2.1 Verbal Report on Development activities

Aaron Sanderson gave an update on development activities and noted that the Committee had good success with sponsorship asks for the Awards. He thanked Peter Berton for his help in securing partners.

Mr. Sanderson noted the Committee was considering strategic renewal and noted that this was open to the Board – he welcomed anyone interested in development to reach out to him as the Committee looks for new faces to join the team.

Mr. Sanderson pointed out that Candice McCavitt has posted the registration link for the Awards program to the website and it is live as of September 13th. He further noted that the Committee is looking to each Board member to consider making a gift to the Agency as the Year End Campaign is approaching soon. He encouraged all members to reach out to Ms. Bain or the Development Committee if they had questions.

3. Juries Committee

Karen Whaley noted that Jury adjudications had been completed the previous evening, September 14th.

3.1 Motion for the Board to move in camera given the confidentiality of Award recommendations

HT 21-20: MOTION FOR THE BOARD TO MOVE IN CAMERA (carried)

Moved by Peter Berton, seconded by Peggy Hornell, and approved unanimously.

3.2 Recommendations for the 2021 Heritage Toronto Awards winners.

Ms. Whaley presented the recommended 2021 Heritage Toronto Awards winners for consideration by the Board.

3.3 Approval of the 2021 Heritage Toronto Awards winners

HT 21-21: APPROVAL OF THE 2021 HERITAGE TORONTO AWARDS WINNERS

(carried)

Moved by Karen Whaley, seconded by Sean Kheraj, and approved unanimously.

3.4 Motion for the Board to move out of camera

HT 21-22: MOTION FOR THE BOARD TO MOVE OUT OF CAMERA

(carried)

Moved by Peter Berton, seconded by Leslie Thompson, and approved unanimously.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Chalaidopoulos noted that the Public Appointments process for the Heritage Toronto Board will soon be launched by the City of Toronto.

As the agency will be filling 14 of its 19 public seats in 2022, she asked Board members to encourage their contacts to apply. She will send an email to all Board Members for their use in reaching out. She specifically noted the agency's need to attract a diverse range of members.

In response to inquiries about outreach, Ms. Bain noted that responsibility lies with the Public Appointments division who is very active in reaching out to 150+ organizations. She did note, however, the importance of utilizing personal and professional networks to encourage nominations. Ms. Chalaidopoulos stated she would be posting the information on her own LinkedIn page and on social media.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos informed the Board that, due to personal circumstances, Jay Pariseau has stepped down from the Board. Having Indigenous representation is crucial to Heritage Toronto and the City has prioritized filling this vacancy.

Ms. Chalaidopoulos reminded Board Members to register for the Awards, noting that it is expected that all Board Members attend.

Ms. Thompson reminded the Board that the National Heritage Conference is being held virtually from September 28 to October 1. They have a bursary program where you can register for free if you provide a reference and she encouraged members to consider attendance.

HT 21-23: MEETING ADJOURNMENT

(carried)

Moved by Peggy Hornell, seconded by Sandy Kedey, and approved unanimously.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:02