

# Kingston Historical Society Founded 1893

P.O. BOX 54, KINGSTON, ON CANADA K7L 4V6  
WWW.KINGSTONHISTORICALSOCIETY.CA



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Kingsbridge Retirement Community Meeting Room

950 Centennial Drive

Kingston, ON K7M 0G8

In-person and ZOOM teleconference

# The Kingston Historical Society

## Annual General Meeting

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## **The Kingston Historical Society Donors' List 2023**

The Kingston Historical Society is very grateful to the following individuals who have contributed to the Society's activities through their generous donations in 2023.

Anonymous

Robert Banks

Eva & Jack Barnes

David Buck

Steven Davidson

Don & Pat Forsdyke

Hazel Fotheringham

John Grenville (2)

Sandra Hamp-Lane

Eleanor MacDonald

Duncan MacDowall

Alan MacLachlan

Denis Magnusson

Peter Miliken

Jay Nuttall

Father Brian Price (2)

Maurice Richardson

Nicole Sminis

Maurice Smith

Ken Watson

## **The Kingston Historical Society Sponsors' List 2023**

The Kingston Historical Society very much appreciates the financial support of the following organizations, which have contributed to the Society's endeavours through their generous sponsorships in 2023.

Allan Graphics  
Cataraqui Cemetery  
Cooke's Fine Foods and Coffee  
Homestead Land Holdings Ltd.  
James Reid Funeral Home  
Marc F. Raymond Opticians Ltd.  
Novel Idea  
Secker, Ross & Perry

# **The Kingston Historical Society**

## **Annual General Meeting**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Presentation of the KHS Award**

1. Call to Order: P. Charbonneau
2. Period of Remembrance: P. Charbonneau
3. Approval of the agenda: P. Charbonneau
4. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2023: P. Charbonneau
5. Business arising from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2023: P. Charbonneau  
See Agenda Item 7 (f) below
6. President's remarks: P. Charbonneau
7. Reports from Officers, Council and Committees---2023: P. Charbonneau
  - a) The President's Report
  - b) The Secretary's Report
  - c) The Awards Committee Report
  - d) The Editor's Report: *Historic Kingston*
  - e) The Editor's Report: *Limelight*
  - f) The KHS High School History Awards Report
  - g) The Membership Report
  - h) The Murney Tower National Historic Site Committee Report
  - i) The Program Report
  - j) The Publicity Report
  - k) The Sir John A. Macdonald June 6 Graveside Ceremony Committee Report
  - l) The Web Site Committee Report
8. New by-laws: P. Gower
9. The Treasurer's Report and presentation of Financial Statements: P. Ginn
10. Ratification of business conducted by Council during the operating year 2023: P. Ginn
11. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2024: P. Ginn
12. Appointment of Secker, Ross, Perry: P. Ginn
13. Appointment of non-Council member to review financial records for 2024: P. Ginn
14. Nominations and election of Officers and Council: V. Durant
15. New business: P. Charbonneau
16. Closing remarks: P. Charbonneau
17. Adjournment: P. Charbonneau

# *The Kingston Historical Society*

## Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, February 15, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

Kingsbridge Retirement Community  
950 Centennial Drive  
Kingston ON  
K7M 0G8  
and Zoom teleconference

## MINUTES

## 1. Call to Order: P.Gower

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm and then Peter read the land acknowledgement.

Peter explained that one had to be a member of KHS in order to make and/or vote on motions.

## 2. Period of Remembrance: P.Gower

A brief period of remembrance was held for those members who passed away in 2022.

### **3. Motion to approve the agenda: P.Gower**

M/S: Warren Everett/Paul Van Nest Carried

#### 4. Motion to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022: P.Gower

M/S: Peter Ginn/Tabitha Renaud Carried

## 5. Business arising from the Annual General Meeting 2022: P.Gower

None

## 6. President's remarks: P. Charbonneau

See item 7 (a) below

## 7. Reports from Officers, Council and Committees: P.Gower

a) The President's Report	P. Charbonneau
b) The Secretary's Report	D. Richardson
c) The Awards Committee Report	P. Charbonneau
d) The Editor's Report: <i>Historic Kingston</i>	P. Gower
e) The Editor's Report: <i>Limelight</i>	B. Andrews
f) The Membership Committee Report	P. Van Nest

- g) The Murney Tower National Historic Site Committee Report T. Renaud
- h) The Program Report D. McDowall
- i) The Publicity Report V. Durant
- j) The Sir John A. Macdonald June 6 Ceremony Committee Report A. MacLachlan
- k) The Web Site Committee Report P. Gower

## **Motion to approve the committee reports:**

M/S: Anne Richardson/Betty Andrews Carried

## 8. The treasurer's report and presentation of Financial Statements: P. Ginn

**Motion to approve the 2022 Treasurer's Report and the Financial Statements prepared by Secker, Ross and Perry:**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Duncan McDowall Carried

## **9. Motion to ratify the business conducted by Council during the operating year 2022: P.Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Duncan McDowall Carried

## **10. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2023 as approved by Council: P. Ginn**

**11. Motion to retain Secker, Ross, Perry to prepare the Society's 2023 financial statements; P. Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Warren Everett Carried

**12. Motion to appoint Doug Petty as a non-Council member to review the financial records of the Society for 2023, and to report to the members at the 2024 AGM: P. Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Warren Everett Carried

### 13. Constitutional amendments: W. Everett

## **CURRENT CONSTITUTION**

## Constitution Part A

### **Section III, Council**

1. The conduct of the affairs of the Society shall be entrusted to a Council constituted as follows:

(a) Five Executive Officers, namely the  
President,  
Vice-president,  
Secretary,  
Treasurer

Immediate Past-president, and

(b) Seven elected councillors whose responsibilities will include the Murney Tower, the newsletter, *Historic Kingston*, and the website.

2. Members of the Council, with the exception of the Past-President are to be elected annually by the membership of the Society.

Amended 16 Feb. 2022

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

Motion to amend the constitution as follows:

#### **Constitution Part A**

#### **Section III, Council**

1. The conduct of the affairs of the Society shall be entrusted to a Council constituted as follows:

(a) Five Executive Officers, namely the

President,  
Vice-president,  
Secretary,  
Treasurer,  
Immediate Past-president, and

(b) 5 or 6 elected councillors.

#### **Elected Terms**

The President and Vice-president shall serve two-year terms. The remainder of the councillors shall serve one-year terms, either acclaimed or elected at the AGM. The immediate Past-president shall serve until replaced by a president leaving her/his role.

There shall also be 3 appointed councillors, namely the Chair of the Murney Tower Committee, the editor of *Historic Kingston*, and the editor of *Limelight*. These councillors will be appointed at the first Council meeting following the AGM and will have the same constitutional rights as the elected councillors.

These positions may also be filled by elected councillors.

M/S: Don Richardson/Warren Everett

Carried

**14. Nomination and election of Officers and Council: V. Durant**

Proposed slate of Council for 2023-2024

Executive Officers

President	Paul Charbonneau
Vice-president	Peter Gower
Secretary	Don Richardson
Treasurer	Peter Ginn
Past-president	Vincent Durant

Elected Councillors

Betty Andrews

Warren Everett

Alan MacLachlan

Dr. Duncan McDowall

Paul Van Nest

The names appearing above are people who have agreed to serve on the Kingston Historical Society Council for the 2023-2024 year.

**Motion to approve the slate of officers for 2023-2024 as submitted by Vincent Durant:**

M/S: Paul Van Nest/ Brent Holland      Carried

**15. New business: P.Gower**

i) High School Awards: P. Van Nest

Paul explained that the Society wanted to acknowledge the achievement of graduating high school students in history in its many forms. Nine schools were asked for input and had indicated a willingness to participate in this new venture. High schools in the public, catholic, French and French Catholic Boards would all be involved. The amount of the award is \$150.00 and would start in June 2023.

ii) Membership fees: P. Ginn

Motion to approve the following change to membership fees beginning in 2024:

	Annual Membership
Family	\$50
Single	\$40
Institution	\$50
Student	\$20

iii) KHS Award: P. Gower  
Peter presented the 2022 award to Dr. Tabitha Renaud for her academic achievements i.e. MA University of Ottawa and PhD from Queen's University; her scholarly research into the early contact of Aboriginal peoples and early Europeans; her involvement in Kingston historical organizations, and most especially her creative endeavours as Director of Murney Tower Museum.

## 16. Closing remarks: P.Gower

Peter announced several upcoming meetings:

- Mon. Feb. 20, 2023: Book launch and signing sponsored jointly by KHS and FHF; speaker-Dr. Robert Banks
- May 8, 2023: FHF to celebrate International Women's Day; speaker Sue Bazely
- Next KHS meeting: Wed. March 15, 2023 at Kingsbridge Retirement Community and ZOOM teleconference

## 17. Adjournment: P. Gower

Motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm.

Minutes recorded by

Don Richardson, Secretary

## REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES---2023

### a) The President's Report---2023

As I complete my current term as President of this distinguished society, I want to celebrate those volunteers who have served with me during the last 2 years on the Council. These learned and talented individuals bring all their hearts and souls into play to continue the work of the Kingston Historical Society.

*"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."* – Helen Dyer

Thank you, Council, for your voices and your actions.

This past year has been one incredibly busy time as you will read through the various committee reports here in this document. From our most visible asset, The Murney Tower, to our routine duties as Council to keep the Society strong and meaningful, we have been industrious.

The highlight of the AGM will be the presentation of the Kingston Historical Society Award to an individual or organization that has contributed to the preservation of local Kingston history.

I want to give a huge shout-out and thank three (3) Directors who will not be returning to Council in 2024, Anne Richardson, Dr. Tabitha Renaud and Warren Everett.

Muhammad Ali once said: *"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."*.

*Thanks for the rent.*

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul J. Charbonneau, President

### b) The Secretary's Report---2023

During the past year, the duties of the secretary consisted of preparing the agendas, recording the minutes and then distributing approved minutes for the meetings of Council to members of Council; preparing the agenda for the annual general meeting, and recording those minutes; preparing for the annual general meeting by editing and assembling reports from members of Council; recording the minutes of the annual general meeting of 2023; updating the lists of donors, sponsors, awards recipients and past presidents for the AGM document; providing documentation for grant applications; completing Province of Ontario reports; assisting the president and treasurer in carrying out their duties as needed and, on occasion, corresponding through email or standard post with members of the public on behalf of the Society. In addition to these duties, assistance was provided to the Murney Tower Committee in the hiring of interns and with other human resources activities.

Respectfully submitted by  
Don Richardson, Secretary

### c) The Awards Committee Report---2023

The Kingston Historical Society (KHS) Awards Committee is pleased to have received nominations for this year and make a recommendation to the Council.

The role of the committee is to recognize individual and organizational contributions to the preservation of local Kingston history. The committee has received nominations for the 2023 award, and it will be presented at the Kingston Historical Society Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The Government of Ontario Volunteer Service Awards held an in-person awards ceremony in Kingston. One member of the Kingston Historical Society received recognition for his dedication to our Society:

**Organization Name/ Nom de l'organisation : Kingston Historical Society**

Warren	Everett	20
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We will be nominating members of KHS who meet the criteria for this acknowledgement of varying years of service to the Society in 2024.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul J. Charbonneau  
Chair, Awards Committee

### d) The Editor's Report, *Historic Kingston 73*---2023

The 91 page *Historic Kingston 73* should be published by March 1<sup>st</sup> and may even be ready for the Heritage Event. It is thinner than some years because no less than three speakers did not submit their papers. Dr. Riehl's time was restricted by previous commitments and health, and we hope to publish her paper in 2025. Chris West's time was filled with the arrival of the S. S. Keewatin and so we have simply published a transcript of the talk (most speakers add to their talk after the question period). Graeme Roy's presentation was an active demonstration, and so I have taken the liberty of writing just the facts he gave us in a short piece approved by him. My thanks again to Betty Andrews whose language and grammatical abilities are just wonderful and helped me avoid a plethora of errors. My thanks also to all who helped deliver, saving us about \$5 a delivery! We hope you will enjoy and learn from HK 73, and perhaps go to YouTube to watch some of the presentations again.

Respectfully submitted by  
Peter Gower, Editor, *Historic Kingston*

### e) The Editor's Report, *Limelight*---2023

*Limelight* is the newsletter of the Kingston Historical society, published in nine monthly issues from September to May. Allan Graphics is the printer. Forty copies of *Limelight* were mailed each month, with the other members receiving *Limelight* by email.

Featured monthly in *Limelight* were ads for the KHS sponsors, notifications of deaths of members, a welcome to new members, a message from President Paul Charbonneau, the report on the month's speaker by program Chair Dr. Duncan McDowall, the announcement of the presenter for the next meeting and a Murney Tower activity update.

This year, Dr. Jennifer McKendry's *Still Standing* column featured the Empire Life building, Christ Church, Cataraqui, and Stone Gables.

Articles, book reports and opinion pieces of local historical interest appeared, as well as mention of recently-published books by members and other local historians.

A new column, *Ear to the Ground* by Elizabeth Durno, reporting on events of interest to history buffs, was begun in 2023.

A profile of Dr. Tabitha Renaud as the Kingston Historical Society Award recipient for 2022 was published. The heritage event in February and the June 6 gathering commemorating Sir John A. Macdonald received coverage. Webmaster Peter Gower posts *Limelight* to the KHS website. Membership Chair Paul Van Nest proofreads each issue, and posts the website link to those members who receive a hard copy.

Respectfully submitted by  
Betty Andrews, Editor, *Limelight*

### f) The KHS High School Awards Report---2023

In the Fall of 2022, Council considered new ventures that could best utilize the capital we have accumulated over the years. One was a history award given to a grade 12 graduating student for each of the 9 area high schools. Paul Van Nest volunteered to undertake the leg-work to develop a proposal, in collaboration with the Limestone District School Board as a starting point. Corinna Dupuis, Head of Student Services at Loyalist Secondary School, and he developed the wording below, avoiding reference to grades at her suggestion as the award could not nor should be based solely on marks. Paul felt strongly that senior history teacher(s) were to have a significant input in the selection process. Council felt that the Society could commit \$1500 a year towards this legacy project into the foreseeable future. There being 9 secondary schools in Kingston we determined, again in consultation with the schools, that a \$150 subject award was appropriate and would be well received by a graduating student. No such award existed in any of these schools, and so Council committed to making this an annual award on behalf of the Society.

In the midst of making these decisions, Corinna, Don Richardson (KHS Secretary) and Paul then began the hard work of recommending the criteria. After many iterations from

consultations with history teachers and heads of student services, the following wording was accepted:

*This award is presented to a graduating student in each of the nine City of Kingston Secondary Schools who has shown an aptitude and passion for history in any of its many forms. As performance in grade 12-level Canadian and/or world history course(s) will be a factor, the student's teachers will have input into the selection of the successful recipient. The criteria may also include the candidate's intention of pursuing further education in the humanities and/or social sciences. By history, we include its many forms, such as archaeology, anthropology, cultural heritage, social history, museums, etc.*

All nine schools participated and last June the following graduates received our award.

Limestone School Board:

Bayridge	Eric Burke
Frontenac	Maranda Krampitz
LaSalle	Natalie Van Wylick
Loyalist	Eli White
Kingston	Claire Tennant

Algonquin and Lakeshore Separate School Board:

Holy Cross	Samantha Pringle
Regiopolis	Jacob Stelter

Francophone schools:

École Secondaire Catholique Marie-Rivier	Dillon Simmons
École Secondaire Publique Mille-Îles.	Noah Ducharme

Members of the Society were asked to make the presentations at each school's graduation ceremony. We succeeded in recruiting representatives for each graduation ceremony: Pres. Paul Charbonneau\*, Jean Rae Baxter\*, Duncan McDowall\*, Michael Murphy\* (our Francophone representative), and Paul Van Nest. (\* two schools). All were warmly welcomed at all schools and made our presentation on stage.

All schools and their teachers are anticipating next year's awards. We've made a mark on the lives of 9 young people; many more will follow thanks to this legacy project.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul Van Nest, Chair, KHS High History Awards

## g) The Membership Report---2023

Our lives have been changed in an existential way, thanks to COVID; we've learned how to use ZOOM! And, believe it or not, some don't want to lose the advantages. Our technical person, Paul Van Nest, has grown his skills from providing our programs in ZOOM-only to what is called "hybrid" mode: both in-person and online in real time. We can thank the facility hosting us, Kingsbridge Retirement Community, for providing its social and technical facilities at no charge. So, this is our new norm, and we are getting used to it. What your membership Chair doesn't understand is why this has not increased our membership. It has, on the other hand I think, increased our attendance, including those online, at our meetings. It has, of course, enabled those members from afar to attend.

Type of Membership	2023	2022	2021	2020
Individuals	96	86	83	66
Families (each counted as 2)	66	90	86	78
Students	2	2	4	3
Life Members	8	10	11	13
Institutions	10	11	12	12
Sponsors	9	7	8	8
TOTAL	191	206	204	180

We were pleased to welcome 20 new members this year, but overall, we have lost 15 members. Surprisingly, family memberships dropped considerably this year, in part due to ten converting from family memberships to personal memberships (only one spouse being a member); only four went the other way. Four members died this year: Bob Cardwell, Eleanor Einarson, Frank Milledge and Britton Smith.

We are pleased to welcome two new sponsors this year: Kingsbridge Retirement Community (our host) and Secker, Ross & Perry, our accounting firm. As well, we appreciate the support of our ongoing sponsors, year after year.

We hope to increase the number of student members (fee \$10) this coming year by reaching out to Queen's students and, as in the past, enlisting a few to speak to us on their research projects.

We promote our monthly programs through press releases sent by our Publicity Chair, Past-president Vincent Durant. However, our best promotion rests with all of you; please, invite your friends to join us as guests for a program or two, in person or online. If online, either send them the link that I send you or, better, send their email address to me and I

will forward the link to them along with some information about our Society. Thank you for your help.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul Van Nest, Chair, Membership

#### **h) The Murney Tower National Historic Site Committee Report---2023**

- The Murney Tower Museum had a very memorable and successful year. The museum welcomed 12,600 visitors between May and September and had approximately 1,000 special event participants who participated in the museum's special events and educational activities.
- One of the highlights of 2023 was our audio tour project, which was developed in collaboration with accessibility experts, consultants, and representatives to address the needs of individuals living with disabilities, and improve their access to Kingston's cultural spaces. Between May and October 2023, the audio tour was used by more than 300 people and received a satisfaction rate of 97%. In November 2023, we completed the French version of the audio tour which is now available on the museum's website.
- 2023 also saw the organization of new holiday-themed events and off-season activities, which engaged more than 600 people with the unique history of the museum and provided them with an opportunity to experience the Murney Tower in a different way. This year we organized an Easter event, Halloween event and Holiday event, all in collaboration with the Museum of Healthcare at Kingston.
- In 2023, the museum participated in three collaborative community events. The first one took place in March when we participated in the March of the Museums event and engaged with 600 people. The second one took place on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The museum had a booth at the Heritage Fair and engaged with 200 students. The last community event took place in August. We participated in the Princess Street Promenade event and engaged with 170 people.
- In 2023, we received a \$12,000 grant from the Community Services Recovery Fund and started developing an app and a game for the museum. I have been working with a game developer named Carson Mark, who developed a matching game for the museum (available on Apple Store). I also purchased an iPad Pro 12 inch and iPad stand for onsite experience. The project is currently in its second stage. Carson will develop the French version of the game, add sound effects, and further develop the app for the 2024 season.
- In 2023, I redesigned all informative panels and exhibits and got them professionally translated into French. The biggest advancement has been the addition of informative panels to the basement, which used to be empty. Seven panels have professionally been printed on a durable material.

- In 2023, we bought two new display cases to modernize the exhibits: a gun case and a case for the Parks Canada display. I also bought display materials such as display bridges and supports to improve the quality of displays. I also created four new displays, two for the barracks level and two for the gun platform.
- In 2023, the museum received four donations: two military medals, an account book, and an original key to one of the storage rooms of the basement. The medals and account book were put on display.
- In 2023, we de-accessioned the Rob Collection. Approximately 200 items were retransferred to the Museum of Archaeology of the University of Western Ontario.
- In 2023, we participated in Tourism Kingston's brochure-racking program and the K-PASS program.
- In 2023, I conducted two classroom visits and delivered a travelling collection workshop and gave five off-season tours.
- In 2023, we launched the first edition of our annual event, the Murney Fest. The first edition took place in late July and had 200 people. We offered a yoga session, oil painting activity, and late admission.
- We received three positions from the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs and got all summer positions funded in 2023.
- In 2023, we had two interns through the HIST 212 Experiential Learning Course.
- In 2023, I joined two Tourism Kingston committees: the Attractions Committee and Visual Creators Committee. I have been attending their meetings, which take place four times a year.
- In September 2023, I started working on the museum's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. I formed a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary planning committee which consists of Anne Richardson (KHS), Peter Radley (KHS), Sam Nicholls (former employee), Baraa Abuzayed (museum volunteer), Ashley Bradshaw (Tourism Kingston) and Tamara Van Dyk (Bellevue House/Parks Canada). The committee will work over the course of 1.5 years with the museum staff on the planning of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and projects. The first meeting will be held in January.
- In February 2023, I gave a guest lecture on the history of the Murney Tower at the Brockville Art Museum. In August 2023, I led a professional development workshop offered by KAM and discussed our accessibility initiatives. In April 2023, I will be a panelist at the Canadian Museum Association Conference and will discuss our audio tour project.

Respectfully submitted by  
Tabitha Renaud, Director, Murney Tower Museum  
As prepared by Simge Erdogan-O'Connor, Manager/Curator, Murney Tower Museum

### i) The Program Report---2023

After two COVID years of presenting its lectures on ZOOM and subsequently via YouTube, the Society in 2023 adopted a hybrid approach to its lecture program: live lectures presented in the spacious and well-appointed theatre lounge of the Kingsbridge Retirement Community at 950 Centennial Drive off Princess Street, and simultaneously offered via Zoom. Kingsbridge residents also freely attended the lectures. All lectures were presented at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month. On the whole, the lectures' audiences split between live attendance and ZOOM viewership with an average of about 35 people. KHS lectures are subsequently posted on YouTube. Special thanks are extended to Paul Van Nest and Craig Pettis for their masterful handling of the technical oversight of the lecture presentations.

The Society is most grateful to the Kingsbridge Retirement Community for its gracious hospitality in hosting our lectures.

**January 18, 2023:** **James Reid** and **Sarah Hedberg** provided an overview of the history of James Reid Funeral Home and its place in Kingston business and society since its founding in 1854.

**February 20, 2023:** In collaboration with the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, we celebrated Kingston's Heritage Month. The event centred around the book launch and subsequent lecture of **Dr. Robert Banks'** upcoming *Warriors and Warships: Conflict on the Great Lakes and the Legacy of Point Frederick* (Dundurn). Dr. Banks' lecture focused on the research and writing of the book and his personal perspectives on Kingston heritage. This was an afternoon event at Memorial Hall in City Hall accompanied by afternoon tea.

**March 15, 2023:** Military historian **Dr. Matthew Barrett** discussed his ground-breaking use of graphic art – cartooning – to convey historical narrative and analysis. Barrett's pictorial chronicle of events such as the battle for Hill 70 in World War I has been widely featured in the national press.

**April 19, 2023:** **John Grenville**, former Curator and Historical Research Officer at Fort Henry and long-time investigator of Kingston's military architecture reported on his research into the city's iconic Market Battery.

**May 17, 2023:** **Graeme Roy**, a docent and board member of the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario, gave us an intimate glimpse of how the telegraph connected Canadians in the early years of Confederation. He reinforced his lecture with a demonstration of telegraphic equipment brought from his extensive collection at the Smiths Falls museum.

**June 6, 2023:** **Dr. Duncan McDowall** spoke at the annual graveside service commemorating Sir John A. Macdonald on a theme of Sir John's ongoing relevance in Canadian heritage.

**September 18, 2023:** Despite their proximity to Kingston, Wolfe Islanders have long prided themselves on the distinctiveness of their island culture. Professor **Anastasia Riehl**, a linguist at Queen's, reported on her research into the distinctive linguistic patterns that have evolved on Wolfe Island over many years.

**October 18, 2023:** To celebrate the arrival in Kingston Harbour of the *S.S. Keewatin*, the new museum ship of the Museum of the Great Lakes, **Chris West**, the board chair of the Museum, gave a talk on the procurement of the ship, its distinguished heritage and its potential for Kingston tourism.

**November 15, 2023:** Queen's doctoral candidate **Kaitlyn MacDonald**'s research into what is called "dark tourism" (e.g. haunted walks, cemetery history) delved beyond the superficial into the historical construction behind our fascination with the abnormal and suggest ways in which such analysis may be used to enhance both our historical understanding and tourism management.

Respectfully submitted by  
Duncan McDowall, Chair, Program

**j) The Publicity Report---2023**

During 2023 we carried on with the traditional routes to publicize KHS events: box ads in the *Kingston Whig Standard* to give dates and brief descriptions of upcoming lectures; press releases one to two weeks before the lectures or other events, and targeted releases for specific events.

The press releases and newspaper advertisements work well with outreach provided through the KHS website, and the bulletins sent by our membership chairperson to keep members and their guests informed about upcoming events.

Over the past couple of years KHS, and especially the Murney Tower Museum (MTM), have received a significant boost in publicity through the development of the MTM website and its monthly newsletter, along with the Museum's presence on social media platforms such as X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram.

Respectfully submitted by  
Vincent Durant, Chair, Publicity

**k) The Sir John A. Macdonald June 6 Graveside Ceremony Committee Report---2023**

The Kingston Historical Society once again gathered at Sir John's graveside at the Cataraqui Cemetery to celebrate the achievements of his long political career and to reflect on his place in Canada's heritage.

As in the past, we were blessed in having Don Richardson as our MC. A warm welcome from Craig Boals, Manager of the Cataraqui Cemetery, followed and a religious reading and prayer were given by Eva Barnes. Alan MacLachlan welcomed everyone on behalf of the KHS and the Commemoration Service Committee. He then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Duncan McDowall of Queen's University, who gave an engaging talk on Macdonald with a title in the form of a question; "Sir John A.: A Super Hero?"

Betty Andrews then laid a commemorative wreath on behalf of the Kingston Historical Society. This was followed by the playing of the Lament by piper Doug Green. At that time, Warren Everett invited those assembled to raise a toast to Sir John. The service then ended with closing remarks from our MC Don Richardson.

The Society was very fortunate to have Jack Barnes taking photos. It appears that many people who attended believed that it was an excellent commemoration of our first prime minister. A YOU TUBE video of our service is found at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqoMypEv71s> or on our website.

We are indebted to Craig Pettis for producing the superb video.

We hope to see you next year at the 2024 June 6 service commemorating the death of Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first prime minister.

Respectfully submitted by  
Alan MacLachlan, Chair, June 6 Committee

#### **I) The Web Site Committee Report---2023**

Our web page remains simple, but usually up to date and readable. Thanks to Paul Van Nest and Brian Chard (the designer) for this. We receive weekly questions from all over, some of which are relevant to our mandate, and some of which are forwarded to groups more able to give answers. Through it, we sell at least one *Historic Kingston* article a month to grateful scholars who have found a reference to the journal but cannot find the relevant copy. Any thoughts on improving the website would be welcomed.

Respectfully submitted by  
Peter Gower, Webmaster

#### **8. The Treasurer's Report---2023**

The generosity of members and others through donations contributed significantly to the Society's 2023 solid financial year. The transfer of funds from the Pittsburgh Historical Society and interest on investments also contributed to the Society's strong revenue in

2023. Expenditures were lower than budgeted for, so the Society ended the year with an operating surplus.

Under strong leadership from our Manager/ Curator, the Murney Tower Museum attracted record attendance. Donations at the door exceeded expectations. In addition, interest on investments and special events generated revenues for the Tower.

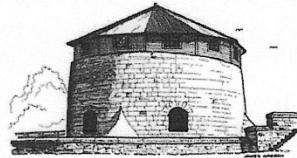
Thanks to grants from the federal government, the City of Kingston's Heritage Fund, the staff required to operate the Tower Museum and related activities were funded without dipping into reserves. Additional grants covered the costs of special initiatives. The Tower has ended the year with a small operating surplus.

Overall, the Society is in a strong financial position. Details are set out in the Financial Statements prepared by the staff of Secker, Ross & Perry.

Doug Petty was designated to review the 2023 financial records for the Society at year end. His report is contained below.

Respectively submitted by  
Peter Ginn, Treasurer

**KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY** *Established 1893*  
P.O. Box 54, Kingston, ON Canada K7L 4V6  
[www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca)



January 15, 2024

To: The Members of Kingston Historical Society

I have reviewed the financial records of the Society for 2023 and in my opinion they are in compliance with the Society's Constitution, Bylaws and policies.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Petty".

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Petty

**9. Ratification of business conducted by Council during the operating year 2023:** P. Ginn

**10. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2024:** P. Ginn

**11. Appointment of Secker, Ross, Perry:** P. Ginn

**12. Appointment of non-Council member to review financial records or 2024:** P. Ginn

**13. Nominations and Election of Officers and Council:** V. Durant

#### Nominations Committee Report

#### Proposed slate of Council for 2024-25

##### Executive Officers

President	Paul Charbonneau
Vice-president	Peter Gower
Secretary	Don Richardson
Treasurer	Peter Ginn
Past-president	Vincent Durant

##### Elected Councillors

Betty Andrews

Liana Shaw

Alan MacLachlan

Dr. Duncan McDowall

Paul Van Nest

The names appearing above are people who have agreed to serve on the Kingston Historical Society Council for the 2024-2025 year.

##### Appointed Councillors:

For the 2024 to 2025 Council year, the appointed positions will be held by the following councillors:

Chair, Murney Tower Museum Committee      Liana Shaw

Editor, *Historic Kingston*      Peter Gower

Editor, *Limelight*

Betty Andrews

Webmaster

Peter Gower

Nominations Committee members: Vincent Durant, Peter Gower, Sandra Durant

Respectfully submitted by Vincent Durant  
Chair, Nominations Committee

**14. New Business:** P. Charbonneau

i) By-law revisions: P. Gower

**15. Closing remarks:** P. Charbonneau

**16. Adjournment:** P. Charbonneau

## APPENDIX A

### The Kingston Historical Society

#### Recipients of KHS Awards

1993 **Dr. W. Breck**: historian; active member  
**Shirley Gibson-Langille**: artist, active member  
**Dr. George F. G. Stanley**: historian and executive member

1994 **Dr. William Angus**: historian, active member  
**Frederick A. McConnell**: curator, historical animator, executive member  
**Dr. Richard A. Preston**: historian, museologist, executive member

1995 **Dr. Margaret S. Angus**: historian, author, government advisor

1996 **Canadian Forces Communications and Electronics Museum**  
**Margaret Cohoe**: historian, teacher, active member  
**Gary Schult**: teacher, heritage fair organizer

1997 **A.G. (Joe) Boucher**: past president (posthumous)  
**Isobel and Bogart Trumpour**: past-presidents

1998 **Brigadier-Gen William Patterson**: author, historic site historian  
**Donald Redmond**: editor, Historic Kingston, librarian, executive member  
**Carol White**: teacher, consultant history curricula

1999 **J. William Fitsell**: journalist, sports historian, past-president  
**Gordon D. Smithson**: founding president, Pittsburgh Historical Society

2000 **Cataraqui Cemetery Company**: 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding  
**Marjorie Simmons**: historian, genealogist, executive member

2001 **George F. Henderson**: archivist, long-time chair Macdonald grave site ceremony  
**Maurice D. Smith**: historian, museologist

2002 **Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation**: 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding  
**Jennifer McKendry**: architectural historian, author; active member

2003 **Downtown Kingston Business Improvement Area**: advocate of building preservation  
**Ingbert J. Huber**: retired master stone-cutter, **Helmut L. Graf**; retired master mason

2004 **John K. D'Esteere**: preserver of marine lore, ship builder  
**George W. Vosper**: public official, preservation activist, museum benefactor

2005 **Kevin E. Reed**: teacher, driving force behind KCVI War Memorial  
**Robert C. Cardwell**: active in local historical and heritage groups and events

2006 **The Kingston Whig Standard**: in recognition of special Canada Day supplement *The People Who Built Kingston*  
**Ann Lukits**: in recognition of the major role in the production of *The People Who Built Kingston*  
**Patricia Fleming**: author, preserver of local social history

2007 **Kim Donovan**: builder, preservationist  
**Brian Stuart Osborne**: community builder, historical geographer; author, past-president  
**John (Jack) Gibson Pike**: teacher, active member, museologist

2008 **Ken Watson**: author, historic site historian, society web master  
**Henk Wevers**: ship builder, museum benefactor  
**Peter Gower**: author, historian, active member

2009 **Beatrice Corbett**: author, active member, Navy Park developer  
**Arthur Britton Smith**: author, Benefactor

2010 **Captain Brian Johnson**: author, active member  
**Donna Ivey**: author, active member  
**Norma Kelly**: author, active member.

2011 **Robert J. Andrews**: author, educator, and active member  
**Edward R. Grenda**: Past President, researcher, active member

2012 **Dr. James Low**: founder, Museum of Health Care at Kingston  
**Queen's University Archives**: for the preservation and management of historical materials

2013 **Canada's Penitentiary Museum**: for its national presence in interpreting the history of the Canadian penal system  
**The Royal Military College of Canada Museum**: for its many contributions to the preservation and interpretation of local Kingston history

2014 **John Fielding**: for his major contribution in improving the teaching of history, and for his 10 years as editor of *Limelight*

2015 **Oscar Malan**: for his keen interest in Kingston history, and his willingness to support local historical authors  
**Doug and Marianne Thompson**: for their interest in the Lower Burial Ground, and for their diligence in raising funds to restore parts of it, and to raise public awareness of such an important Kingston landmark

2016 **Professor Emeritus Duncan McDowall**: educator, author, speaker for his contributions to the preservation, understanding and interpretation of local Kingston history.  
**Joanne Stanbridge**: for developing and producing a number of projects which have helped publicize and popularize local history in Kingston and Frontenac County.

2017 **Major Warren Everett** (retired): author, for his long and outstanding service to the Kingston Historical Society in numerous roles, and for his leadership role in the Hill 70 Memorial Project which created a perpetual monument and a highly respected high school resource kit. **John Grenville**: for his long-time commitment to recording and highlighting Kingston's history as an author and as Chair of a long list of committees dedicated to improving people's knowledge and appreciation of historical issues of import to the citizens of Kingston.

2018 **Paul Banfield**: archivist, Queen's University, for his contributions to the acquisition, management, and preservation of local Kingston history. **Laura Murray**: director of the Swamp Ward and Inner Harbour History Project which has done much to inform Kingston residents about this intriguing part of Kingston's history. **Susanna McLeod**: writer, for her long-time historical contributions to the Kingston Whig-Standard which have informed and delighted Kingstonians for more than a decade.

2019 **Bill Stevenson** for the creation of the Vintage Kingston Facebook page which offers a public platform for sharing historic ephemera related to Kingston and its environs. **City of Kingston Volunteer Tour Guide Program** for providing free guided tours of City Hall for over 20 years.

2020 Cancelled because of COVID-19 provincial regulations.

2021 **Susan Hannah and Bob Hilderley**: Bob was a long-time president of Quarry Press (later The Kingston Press), and Susan later joined this venture. They encouraged Kingston authors and were responsible for printing many books specific to Kingston's history. They produced two wonderful editions of Kingston's calendar, and their contribution to Kingston's writers of history has been invaluable. **Paul Robertson**: Currently the curator for the city of Kingston, Paul has a long and illustrious career in journalism, history and museum technology, and has done a great deal to oversee Kingston's wonderful collection of art and artifacts. Through his work and determination, Paul has reinforced our city's storied history and culture.

2022 **Dr. Tabitha Renaud** for her academic achievements; her research into first contact between Aboriginal peoples and early Europeans; her involvement in Kingston historical organizations, and her innovative endeavours as Director of Murney Tower Museum.

2023 **The Volunteers of the Museum of the Great Lakes** for over 40 years of numerous accomplishments, hard work and enthusiasm in creating a museum which is recognized in Kingston and far beyond.

## Appendix B

### The Kingston Historical Society

#### Presidents

1893-94	Very Rev. Buxton B. Smith
1894-95	Rev. Samuel Houston
1895-96	Dr. J.L.H. Neilson
1896-97	Dr. R.T. Walkem, Q.C.
1897-98	Professor George D. Ferguson
1898-99	Professor Adam Shortt
1900-01	Dr. E.H. Smythe, Q.C.
1901-02	Rev. Conway Cartwright
1902-03	Dr. R.T. Walkem
1903-05	Col. M.H. Twitchell
1906-11	Dr. R.V. Rogers, K.C.
1911-12	J.M. Farrell, Esq.
1912-14	Rev. Canon G.L. Starr
1914-16	Professor G.D. Ferguson
1916-21	Rt. Rev. Edward J. Bidwell, Bishop of Ontario
1921-26	Major General Sir Archibald Macdonnell
1926-29	Professor Duncan A. McArthur
1929-32	H.F. Price, Esq.
1932-35	Professor D.A. McArthur
1935-41	Professor Reginald G. Trotter
1941-51	Lt. Col. Courtlandt M. Strange (Acting President)
1951-58	Lt. Col. Courtlandt M. Strange
1958-61	Professor G.F.G. Stanley
1961-72	Lt. Col. Louis J. Flynn
1972-74	Dr. Margaret Angus
1974-76	Mr. Bogart Trumper
1976-78	Mr. Allan Cohoe
1978-80	Mr. Neil A. Patterson
1980-82	Mrs. Isobel Trumper
1982-84	Mr. Ray Haslewood
1984-86	Mrs. Anne MacDermaid
1986-88	Mr. Kevin Quinn
1988-90	Dr. Wallace G. Breck
1990-92	Mrs. Isobel Trumper
1992-94	Mr. Frank Milledge

1994-96	Mr. J.W. Fitsell
1996-97	Mr. A.G. Boucher
1997-98	Major Louis Grimshaw
1998-2000	Dr. Desmond O'Meara
2000-02	Major Warren Everett
2002-05	Dr. Brian S. Osborne
2005-07	Mr. Maurice D. Smith
2007-09	Mr. Edward R. Grenda
2009-11	Mr. Alan MacLachlan
2011-13	Mr. Gordon Sinclair
2013-16	Mr. Peter Gower
2016-17	Major Louis Grimshaw
2017-18	Dr. Marcus Letourneau
2018-20	Major Warren Everett
2020-22	Mr. Vincent Durant