

**Kingston Historical Society** *Founded 1893*

P.O. Box 54, KINGSTON, ON CANADA K7L 4V6

WWW.KINGSTONHISTORICALSOCIETY.CA



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

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 2024**

The Kingston Historical Society is very grateful to the following individuals who have contributed to the Society's activities through their generous donations in 2024.

Anonymous  
Allan Graphics  
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 2024**

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 2024.

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

# **The Kingston Historical Society**

## **Annual General Meeting**

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

### **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 2024: P. Charbonneau
5. Business arising from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024: P. Charbonneau
6. Approval of the minutes of the Special General Meeting of Sept. 18, 2024: P. Charbonneau
7. President's remarks: P. Charbonneau
8. Reports from Officers, Council and Committees---2024: 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
9. The Treasurer's Report and presentation of Financial Statements: P. Ginn
10. Ratification of business conducted by Council during the operating year 2024: P. Ginn
11. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2025: P. Ginn
12. Appointment of Doane Grant Thornton: P. Ginn
13. Appointment of non-Council member to review financial records for 2025: P. Ginn
14. Nominations and election of Board: V. Durant
15. New business: P. Charbonneau
16. Closing remarks: P. Charbonneau
17. Adjournment: P. Charbonneau

#### Video

*aptnLUMI* presents the Ghost Hunters of the Grand River: season 3, episode 1, entitled "Murney Tower". Three Six Nations men from the Grand River have acquired specialized equipment that they use to detect and communicate with ghosts. They talked our own Dr. Simge Erdogan-O'Conner to help them communicate with past residents of the Murney Tower. Come with your skepticism, see and hear of her experience

# *The Kingston Historical Society*

## Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, February 21, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

Kingsbridge Retirement Community  
950 Centennial Drive  
Kingston ON  
K7M 0G8  
And ZOOM teleconference

## MINUTES

Prior to commencement of the business portion of the evening, Paul Charbonneau, via ZOOM, read the citation for the Kingston Historical Society Award which was presented in person to the volunteers of the Great Lakes Museum by Peter Gower.

### **1. Call to Order:** P. Charbonneau

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm.

Number of members in attendance: 27

### **2. Period of Remembrance:** P. Charbonneau

A brief period of remembrance was held for those members who passed away in 2023.

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

M/S: Warren Everett/Betty Andrews

Carried

### **4. Motion to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2023:** P. Charbonneau

M/S: Duncan McDowall/Anne Richardson

Carried

### **5. Business arising from the Annual General Meeting 2023:** P. Charbonneau

#### a) High School History Awards: Paul Van Nest

Paul informed members of the history of the creation of the award, its criteria, and the names of the 2023 winners. The response from schools for the 2024 awards has been very positive. All 9 schools are very much looking forward to the awards.

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

Paul reflected on the many accomplishments of the Society---the High School History Awards, the Heritage Event, the excellent guest speakers every month, the June 6 ceremony and more. He expressed his appreciation for the volunteer hours of Council, especially those of Warren Everett and Dr. Tabitha Renaud who would be leaving Council after many years of service. Paul also acknowledged the work of Simge Erdogan-O'Connor, the curator/manager of the Murney Tower Museum, and of the current intern.

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

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 Graveside Ceremony Committee Report	A. MacLachlan
k) The Web Site Committee Report	P. Gower

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

M/S: Warren Everett/Anne Richardson                      Carried

## **8. New By-laws: P. Gower**

Peter explained that the Ontario Government had begun the process of revising the rules around not-for-profit organizations, of which our Society is one, some 15 years ago. The legislation has been passed and is scheduled to come into effect in the Fall of 2024. As such, Peter has revised our rules to comply with the new law. At this point, the revisions have been forwarded to Queen's Law for their feedback. Once our version has been approved by them, the revisions will be presented to the Society members for their approval.

## **9. The Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Financial Statements: P. Ginn**

### **Motion to approve the 2023 Treasurer's Report and the Financial Statements prepared by Peter Ginn:**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Duncan McDowall                      Carried

## **10. Motion to ratify the business conducted by Council during the operating year 2023: P.Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Alan Boyce                      Carried

## **11. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2024 as approved by Council: P. Ginn**

Peter explained the anticipated revenues and expenses for 2024, which had been approved by Council.

**12. Motion to retain Grant Thornton to prepare the Society's 2024 financial statements: P. Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Vincent Durant Carried

**13. Motion to appoint Doug Petty as a non-Council member to review the financial records of the Society for 2024, and to report to the members at the 2025 AGM: P. Ginn**

M/S: Peter Ginn/Paul Van Nest Carried

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

a) Nominations for the position of Councillor-at-Large:

Dr. Craig Pettis, nominated by Paul Van Nest, Seconded by Alan MacLachlan

There being no other nominations, the nominations were declared closed through a motion presented by Paul Van Nest, seconded by Alan MacLachlan. Carried

Craig Pettis acclaimed

b) Proposed slate of Council for 2024-2025

Executive Officers

President Paul Charbonneau

Vice-President Peter Gower

Secretary Don Richardson

Treasurer Peter Ginn

Past-President Vincent Durant

Elected Councillors

Betty Andrews

Alan MacLachlan

Dr. Duncan McDowall

Dr. Craig Pettis

Liana Shaw

Paul Van Nest

The following Councillors will have the portfolios as indicated:

Chair, Murney Tower Museum Committee Liana Shaw



Editor, *Historic Kingston*

Peter Gower

Editor, *Limelight*

Betty Andrews

Webmaster

Peter Gower

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

Nominations Committee members: Vincent Durant (Chair), Peter Gower, Sandra Durant

**Motion to approve the slate of officers for 2024-2025 as submitted by Vincent Durant:**

M/S: Susan Everett/Anne Richardson

Carried

**15. New business:** P. Charbonneau

None

**16. Closing remarks:** P. Charbonneau

Paul stated that it had been an honour to serve as president for the past two years, and thanked those who had helped him in carrying out his duties. He stated, too, that he was looking forward to next year, and the work that would be done by the Society.

**17. Adjournment:** P. Charbonneau

Motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm.

Moved: Vincent Durant

Carried

Minutes recorded by

Don Richardson, Secretary

**Minutes of a Special General Meeting of the Society held on 18 September 2024**

All members had been notified of the meeting both electronically and in print. 30 were in attendance, either in person in the Kingsbridge Retirement Community lounge, or on Zoom.

1. The meeting was called to order following the talk by President Paul Charbonneau at approximately 8.15.
2. He announced that the only item of business was consideration of the new By- Law #2 which had been publicly available on the web site for three weeks and mailed to those without internet access with *Limelight*.
3. He asked Vice President Peter Gower to review the changes, and then asked for questions from the floor. These were answered.

4. There being no further questions, he asked for a mover and a seconder for the motion:

“That the Kingston Historical Society approve By-law No. 2 as printed, without amendment”

The motion was moved by Peter Gower, and seconded by Peter Ginn.

The motion was put to the vote and approved unanimously.

5. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8.30, on a motion by Duncan McDowall, approved unanimously.

## REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES---2024

### a) The President's Report---2024

As I complete my Presidency of this eminent society and pass the leadership on, I am reflective of just how important this society and others like it are to the thread of our great city. Canada's First Capital has a unique and prominent position in our shared history. What would that history lack in substance if not for the thousands of members, since our inception in 1893, who have contributed and supported it.

*"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life." – Author Unknown*

Thank you to everyone associated with the Kingston Historical Society for touching my life; I am richer for it. The one hundred and thirtieth year at the Kingston Historical Society has been full of many accomplishments and rewarding achievements. Our annual speakers program brought many interesting voices and subjects to our stage; the 2024 edition of *Historic Kingston* will arrive soon for you to read and enjoy. The *Limelight* Newsletter continues to entertain and delight each month; I know I look forward to it hitting my inbox. And of course, our most significant project, the Murney Tower, has continued to delight visitors and share the significant contributions it made to Kingston life. We did, however, have to say goodbye to our museum Director, Dr. Simge Erdogan-O'Connor; we wish her well in her continuance of a stellar career.

Once again, this year, the highlight of the Annual General Meeting will be the presentation of the Kingston Historical Society Award to an individual and organization who has contributed to the preservation of local Kingston history. I very much look forward to presenting this in person to a very deserving individual.

I want to give a huge shout-out and thank two (2) Directors who will not be returning to Council in 2025: Alan MacLachlan and Vincent Durant. Thank you for sharing your gift of volunteerism with us for many years.

William Shakespeare wrote "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul J. Charbonneau, President

### b) The Secretary's Report---2024

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 2024; 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

#### **a) The Awards Committee Report---2024**

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 2024 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 their dedication to our Society:

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

<b>NAME OF RECIPIENT</b>	<b>AWARD</b>
<b>Betty Andrews</b>	<b>20 years</b>
<b>Vincent Durant</b>	<b>5 years</b>
<b>Alan MacLachlan</b>	<b>20 years</b>
<b>Duncan McDowall</b>	<b>5 years</b>
<b>Tabitha Renaud</b>	<b>5 years</b>

We will be nominating members of KHS who meet the criteria for this acknowledgement of varying years of service to the Society in 2025.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul J. Charbonneau  
Chair, Awards Committee

#### **d) The Editor's Report, *Historic Kingston* 73---2024**

*Historic Kingston* 73, featuring the *Keewatin* on the cover, was published in February for distribution at the Heritage Lecture. It is hoped that *Historic Kingston* 74 will be available for the 2025 Heritage Lecture. Its cover shows the Murney Tower during the solar eclipse. Dr. Riehl's paper (from September 2023) is not included, as it was no longer available as promised. John Grenville's paper Edward R. Beckwith (1879-1963), from November 2024, will be published in *Historic Kingston* 75. There is a steady flow of requests for copies of past papers, usually sold as pdfs from researchers whose libraries do not have the original copies. My thanks to all presenters who continue to be prompt when submitting their papers, and to Betty Andrews who proofreads meticulously and picks out everything I have not noticed.

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

#### **e) The Editor's Report, *Limelight*---2024**

*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, as well as reports on the progress of the fund raising campaign for the 100th anniversary of the Murney Tower in 2025. In March the Great Lakes Museum volunteers were noted as the award winners for the KHS annual award and in September the student winners of the recently-initiated history award were announced.

In September Secker, Ross and Perry was replaced by Grant Thornton as a sponsor.

In September *Limelight* was published in a twelve-page edition rather than the usual 8-page edition. This year, Dr. Jennifer McKendry's Still Standing column featured the Fairfield-Gutzeit House, the house at 81 King Street and the Douglas Library, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2024. A three-part series on the newly-opened Bellevue House was submitted by Bruce Macmillan. Articles and opinion pieces of local historical interest appeared, as well as mention of recently-published books by members and other local historians. The reissue of a KHS publication, *To Build a Good Neighbourhood*, Grenville Park, the First Fifty Years, by Phyllida Kent, was announced.

The column, *Ear to the Ground* by Elizabeth Durno, reporting on events of interest to history buffs, which began in 2023, continued. A highlight of this year's local events reported on was the opening to the public by the Great Lakes Museum of their newly-acquired S.S. Keewatin.

The Heritage event in February and the June 6 gathering, commemorating Canada's first prime minister Sir John A. Macdonald, received coverage.

Thanks to Webmaster Peter Gower who posts *Limelight* to the KHS website and to Membership Chair Paul Van Nest who proofreads each issue, posts the website link to those who receive *Limelight* by email, and supplies labels for mailing *Limelight* to members who receive a hard copy.

Respectfully submitted by  
Betty Andrews, Editor, *Limelight*

#### **f) The KHS High School Awards Report---2024**

This year our Society presented our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual History Award to graduating students from Kingston's nine secondary schools. The criteria for their selection are as follows:

*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.*

Congratulations to this year's graduates who received our award:

Limestone School Board:

Bayridge	Quinn O'Brien
Frontenac	Ari Leroux
LaSalle	Grace Gibson
Loyalist	Christopher Bakyta
Kingston	Rayyan Mounib

Algonquin and Lakeshore Separate School Board:

Holy Cross	Ava Burns
Regiopolis	Danica Samson

Francophone schools:

École Secondaire Catholique Marie-Rivier	Colesen Lebrun
École Secondaire Publique Mille-Îles.	Seham Kettaneh

Members of the Society who volunteered to present our \$150 award this year were Jean Baxter, Grant LeDrew, Kat MacDonald, Alan MacLachlan, Michael Murphy, Duncan McDowell and Paul Van Nest. All of us were warmly welcomed at our respective schools and all made our presentation on stage. Please consider volunteering for a school next year (your choice at this point); email [pvannest@cogeco.ca](mailto:pvannest@cogeco.ca) or phone 613-532-1903.

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

### **g) The Membership Report---2024**

Our hybrid Monthly Heritage Meetings have been well attended both in person (25+) and online (15+). The technology will continue to improve as I, assisted by Craig Pettis and Al Boyce, work with the technology provided by the Kingsbridge Retirement Community facility and whatever we might add.

From the history of our membership in the chart below, you'll see that we still hover around 200 in membership. Council will continue to pursue new avenues of promoting our membership to the public, Queen's, RMC, and other clubs and societies. We are moving into the social media domain as well this coming year, thereby hoping to attract a new demographic to our membership – spread the word.

Type of Membership	2025 31 Dec'24	2024	2023	2022	2021

Individuals	23	97	94	86	83
Families (each counted as 2)	18	68	64	90	86
Students	0	5	1	2	4
Life Members	7	7	10	10	11
Institutions	1	11	10	11	12
Sponsors	0	8	9	7	6
TOTAL	49	196	188	206	202

We have attracted 9 new members between September and December: 3 personal and 3 families. Their names have been posted monthly in our Fall *Limelights*.

One quarter of last year's membership have already renewed for 2025 before December 31<sup>st</sup>. Invoices to Institutions and Sponsors are emailed in early January.

Finally, we would like to pay tribute to our loyal sponsors: Cataraqui Cemetery, Cooke's Fine Foods, Doan Grant Thompson, Homestead Realty, James Reid Funeral Home, Kingsbridge Retirement Community, Marc Raymond Opticians, and Novel Idea.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul Van Nest, Chair, Membership

#### **h) The Murney Tower National Historic Site Committee Report---2024**

2024 was a remarkable year at the Murney Tower Museum! On May 20th, we proudly reopened our doors to the public, and over the following four months, we welcomed approximately 13,000 visitors. This year marked the launch of the Centennial Initiative, an ambitious effort to transform the museum's upcoming 100th anniversary into a Kingston-wide celebration of local history, arts, and heritage.

Our commitment to accessibility grew tremendously in 2024. We introduced a French audio tour, two new interactive exhibits, and a French Access Guide—key steps toward making the museum more inclusive and engaging for disabled communities in Kingston.

The Murney Tower Museum was as dynamic as ever, extending its reach beyond its walls. We participated in classrooms, community events, public celebrations, and even outdoor spaces like streets and parks—bringing local arts, history, and culture to where our communities gather.

As we reflect on 2024, we cherish the countless memorable moments shared with our visitors, whether they were local families discovering their city's rich history, regional school groups exploring our interactive exhibits, or international tourists captivated by the stories housed within our historic walls. Each encounter reaffirmed the museum's role as a cornerstone of Kingston's heritage and a bridge connecting people through shared experiences.

of art, culture, and history. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building on this success by expanding our programs, introducing new initiatives, and creating even more opportunities for connection and learning.

### Year at a Glance: In Numbers

- 13,000 visitors
- 244 guided tour participants
- 14,000 website clicks
- 750 special event participants
- 600 students
- 2,200 social media followers

As I reflect on my first year as Chair, I am so inspired by the incredible strides we've made in sharing our rich history with the community. In 2024, we launched a major fundraising effort for our upcoming 100th anniversary and saw the first of our celebratory projects take shape. We continued to prioritize accessibility and inclusivity while hosting special events for all ages.

This year, art and history intertwined as Murney's acoustics inspired an experimental sound performance, and the gun platform hosted a folk concert to close the season. At year's end, a scaled-down replica of Murney Tower, joined by some of our youngest visitors, proudly floated down Princess Street in our debut at the Santa Claus Parade.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we also bid farewell to Dr. Simge Erdogan-O'Connor, whose five years of exceptional leadership profoundly shaped the museum. Under her guidance, the museum was modernized and rebranded, its operations improved, and its strategic priorities redefined. Simge's innovative leadership raised the museum's profile and established its place in Kingston's heritage landscape. We will miss her greatly and wish her all the best!

Looking ahead to our 100th year celebrations, I am excited for what the future holds. I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support of the Kingston Historical Society, Parks Canada and our staff, volunteers, and community. Together, we are bringing history to life.

Respectfully submitted by  
Liana Shaw, Chair, Murney Tower Committee

### i) The Program Report---2024

The Kingston Historical Society lectures in 2024 were presented in hybrid fashion: live presentation in the comfortable Theatre Lounge of the Kingsbridge Retirement Community (950 Centennial Drive), accompanied by refreshments, AND via Zoom simultaneously. Society members were emailed the Zoom link on the Friday before each lecture. Lectures were also open to the public. Lectures were subsequently



posted on YouTube by the weekend following each presentation and later published in the Society's annual journal. Special thanks to Paul Van Nest, Peter Gower, Craig Pettis, Betty Andrews and Vincent Durant for their support of the program.

**Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>:** Professor Gordon Dueck of the Queen's history department talked about the cultural history of the Black community in Kingston: "**Barbers in Blackface? African-Canadian Musicians in Fin-de-Siecle Kingston.**"

**Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm in the Memorial Hall of City Hall:** In conjunction with the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, the Society celebrated Family Day/Heritage Month in Ontario with a lecture by architectural historian Dr. Jennifer McKendry, a talk showcasing her latest book *Architects Working in the Kingston Region 1920-2000*. Books were available for purchase and a high tea will be served.

**Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>:** The Annual General Meeting included the presentation of the Society's award to the Volunteers of the Great Lakes Museum through their Museum Manager and Curator, Doug Cowie. In turn, he was asked to speak briefly about their achievements over the years.

**Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>:** Kingston railway historian Eric Gagnon discussed his extensive railway research: "**Two Miles, Two Tracks, Two Railways, To Obscurity.**" Eric's books – *Smoke on the Waterfront* and *Stories on the Waterfront* – have focused on the railway's impact on Kingston's economy.

**Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>:** Queen's doctoral student Margaret Ross talked about the problem of "vice" in late nineteenth Kingston and the City's attempt to control its sex trade. "**Your Town is Rotten': Prostitution, Profit and the Governing of Vice in Kingston, Ontario, 1860-1920s,**" recently published in the *Journal of the History of Sexuality*.

**Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>:** Military historian and first Deputy-Director of History and Heritage at the Department of National Defence Ian Macpherson McCulloch talked on his 2022 book *John Bradstreet's Raid 1758*. The raid, which saw French-held Fort Frontenac fall to Bradstreet's troops, proved a pivotal point in the so-called French and Indian War.

**Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>:** The Society hosted the annual commemoration of Sir John A. Macdonald at Christ Church Cataraqui Anglican Church because of the inclement weather..

**Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>:** Kingston lawyer and historian of Ontario's nineteenth-century brewing industry Alan McLeod discussed "Brewing and Beer in Eastern Upper Canada 1790s to 1840s".

**Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>:** William Galbraith drew on his biography *John Buchan: Model Governor General* to illustrate the life and Canadian impact of the famous Scottish author of *The Thirty-Nine Steps*.

**Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>:** Well-known local architectural historian and archaeologist John Grenville discussed the legacy of architect **Ernest R. Beckwith (1879-1963)**, who worked in Kingston as City engineer and architect.

Respectfully submitted by  
Duncan McDowall, Chair, Program

## **j) The Publicity Report---2024**

Overview:

The role of the KHS Publicity Chair is to notify and publicize events and initiatives organized by the Kingston Historical Society through local media, newspapers, radio, television and through newsletters of other like organizations

General:

- 1) In conjunction with the Program chair and other appropriate committee chairs develop announcements or press releases. Event announcements should be sent to the media one week in advance of the event.
- 2) Contact should be made regularly with media outlets to aid in the publishing of announcements and to keep abreast of the policies of each media outlet.
- 3) The chair should maintain a file of all clippings of all published announcements
- 4) To report to KHS Council on all matters relating to Publicity, as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted by  
Vincent Durant, Chair, Publicity

## **k) The Sir John A. Macdonald June 6 Graveside Ceremony Committee Report---2024**

The forecast was for rain on 6 June and the service was moved indoors. We were very fortunate that Archdeacon Bill Clarke had offered us the historic, and recently de-sanctified, Christ Church Cataraqui on the southwest edge of the Cataraqui Cemetery as the inclement weather venue. As in the past several years, Don Richardson served as the MC.

The service began with the national anthem led for the first time by the KHS trio: Duncan McDowell, Paul Van Nest and Bill Clarke. A warm welcome was extended to the 50 attendees by Craig Boals, the manager of the Cataraqui Cemetery. Archdeacon Bill Clarke gave a religious reading and a prayer. Peter Gower, the KHS Vice-president, fittingly garbed in full Scottish highland outfit, welcomed everyone on behalf of the KHS and the Commemoration Service Committee. He then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Stephen Smith, an historian with Parks Canada. Dr. Smith gave an engaging address titled "Macdonald's Four Lives at Bellevue House". Councillor and deputy mayor of Kingston, Gary Oosterhof, laid a commemorative wreath on behalf of the City of Kingston. (It is interesting to note that Sir John was an alderman for Kingston in 1843.) Anne Richardson then laid a wreath on behalf of the Kingston Historical Society. Both were escorted by Peter Gower.

This was followed by the playing of the Lament by piper Doug Green. Warren Everett then invited those

assembled to join in a toast to Sir John. The service ended with closing remarks from MC Don Richardson. He expressed thanks to all those involved in making the commemorative service a wonderful testament to Canada's first Prime Minister and major mover in the creation of Canada. The service closed with the singing of 'God Save The King'.

The Society appreciates the photographic services of Eva Barnes. Many people participating voiced the sentiment that it was an excellent commemoration of our first prime minister, and a marvellous alternate historic location. We are indebted to Craig Pettis for producing the video. We hope to see you next year at the 2025 June 6 service commemorating the death of Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first prime minister, and hope that there will be no heavenly moisture.

Respectfully submitted by  
Alan MacLachlan, Chair, June 6 Committee

### **l) The Web Site Committee Report---2024**

Our web page continues to receive questions on the Society, Kingston, genealogy and many other topics from all over, to some of which we can give answers. We receive requests for the Zoom link to talks from those who have seen them advertised, sometimes from far away, although we do not always know where our viewers are. The page has YouTube links to all of the talks given since 2021, and acts as a virtual meeting place since we now have so few times when we get together as a group. Suggestions for additions to the page are welcomed.

Respectfully submitted by  
Peter Gower, Webmaster

### **8. The Treasurer's Report---2024**

The generosity again this year of members and others through donations contributed significantly to the Society's 2024 solid financial year. Interest on investments also contributed to the Society's strong revenue in 2024. Expenditures were lower than budgeted for, so the Society ended the year with an operating surplus.

Under the leadership of our Murney Tower Museum Director a number of special events increased the Tower revenues. In addition, interest on investments meant the Tower finished the year with an operating surplus. The Tower Museum will celebrate its centennial in 2025 . Special Events are planned and some began in 2024. Donations in support of these activities were sought in 2024 and nearly \$20,000 gathered to support the centennial celebrations.

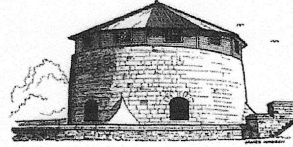
Thanks to grants from the federal government, the City of Kingston's Heritage fund, the staff required to operate the Tower Museum and related activities were funded without dipping into reserves. Additional grants covered the costs of special initiatives. The Tower has ended the year with an operating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

Overall, the Society is in a strong financial position. Details are set out in more detail in the Financial Statements prepared by the staff of Doane Grant Thornton.

Doug Petty was designated to review the 2024 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 13, 2025

To: The Members of Kingston Historical Society

I have reviewed the financial records of the Society for 2024 and in my opinion they are in compliance with the Society's Constitution, Bylaws and policies.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Petty".

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Petty

**9. The Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Financial Statements: P. Ginn**

**10. Ratification of business conducted by Council during the operating year 2024: P. Ginn**

**11. Presentation of the General & Murney Tower budgets for 2025:** P. Ginn

**12. Appointment of Doane Grant Thornton:** P. Ginn

**13. Appointment of non-Council member to review financial records or 2025:** P. Ginn

**14. Nominations and Election of Board:** V. Durant

Proposed slate of Board for 2025-2026

Betty Andrews  
Paul Charbonneau  
Peter Gower  
Peter Ginn  
Kat MacDonald  
Duncan McDowall  
Craig Pettis  
Don Richardson  
Liana Shaw  
Ann Stevens  
Paul Van Nest

The names appearing above are people who have agreed to serve on the *Kingston Historical Society* Board of Directors for the 2025-2026 year.

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

Respectfully submitted by Vincent Durant  
Chair, Nominations Committee

**15. New Business:** P. Charbonneau

**17. 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 Fittell**: 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.

2024 **Alan MacLachlan** in appreciation of his tireless efforts in support of Kingston history and of the the Kingston Historical Society as Councillor, President, Past President and Secretary. Alan is best recognized as the manager of the June 6<sup>th</sup>, Sir John A. Macdonald grave-site ceremonies.

## 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 Trumpour
1976-78	Mr. Allan Cohoe
1978-80	Mr. Neil A. Patterson
1980-82	Mrs. Isobel Trumpour
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 Trumpour
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
2022-25	Mr. Paul Charbonneau