



Township of Minden Hills

AGENDA

Minden Hills Cultural Centre Advisory
Committee

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 @ 10:30 AM
Cultural Centre

Page

1. Welcome and Call to Order

2. Land Acknowledgment

We respectfully acknowledge that the Township of Minden Hills is located on Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory, and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which are Curve Lake, Rama, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Beausoleil and Georgina Island First Nations.

We acknowledge a shared presence of Indigenous nations throughout the area, and recognize its original, Indigenous inhabitants as the stewards of its lands and waters since time immemorial.

3. Approve Agenda

3.1 Approval of Agenda

Recommendation:

That the June 9, 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda be approved as circulated.

4. Delegations

5. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting

5.1 Adoption of Minutes

[05.12.2026 MHCC Minutes](#)

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Recommendation:

That the May 12, 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

6. Items for Discussion

6.1 Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation partnership

6.2 Events and Exhibits

7. Recommendations to Council

8. Next Meeting Date

9. Adjournment

9.1 Adjournment

Recommendation:

That the, June 9 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee Meeting is hereby adjourned at _____.



The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills
Minden Hills Cultural Centre
Advisory Committee Minutes
 Tuesday, May 12, 2026
 Cultural Centre

Present: Councillor Pam Sayne, David Rea, Adele Espina
 Absent: Liz McGowan
 Staff Present: Candace McGuigan, Shannon Kelly, Robert Wong

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM.

2. Land Acknowledgment

The Chair read the land acknowledgement.

3. Approve Agenda

Moved by Adele Espina; Seconded by Councillor Pam Sayne that the May 12, 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda be approved as circulated.

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Moved by Dave Rea; Seconded by Councillor Pam Sayne that the April 14, 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee Meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

6. Items for Discussion

6.1. Minden Hills Cultural Centre Strategic Plan Review

- The *Minden Hills Cultural Centre Strategic Plan (2026–2030)* and *Strategic Action Plan (2026–2030)* will be presented for final approval at the upcoming council meeting before being included in the Minden Hills Cultural Centre's Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) application, which has a deadline in late June.
- A Committee member noted that the strategic plan identifies certain tasks and responsibilities as being supported by volunteers and the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation (MHCCF), and questioned whether there may be flexibility for future staffing opportunities. The Manager responded that it may be more realistic to secure funding or hire staff through special project grants rather than through permanent staffing positions.

- The Manager referenced MHCCF grant meetings as opportunities to advocate for additional funding support.
- Councillor Pam Sayne noted that Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) has helped bring greater attention to advocacy efforts at the provincial level. Collaboration is ongoing with Kawartha Lakes and other municipalities to strengthen regional advocacy efforts.
- A Committee member raised concerns about the possibility of future municipal amalgamation within Haliburton County and the potential impacts this could have on cultural institutions such as the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. The member invited discussion on how the strategic plan may help prepare for or address possible future restructuring. Manager emphasized the importance of each cultural institution maintaining its own strategic plan in preparation for any future restructuring discussions. A Committee member discussed the potential for shared human resources within the county.
- Discussion referenced a previous heritage roundtable where cultural institutions within the county met collaboratively. Manager noted that there may be an opportunity to potentially revive these formal meetings a few times annually.
- The Committee recommended that the *Minden Hills Cultural Centre Strategic Plan (2026–2030)* and *Strategic Action Plan (2026–2030)* be approved by Council.

6.2. Partnership with Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation

- The Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation (MHCCF) provided \$500 to support four high school scholarship awards: the Visual Arts Graduate Leadership Award, Media Arts Award, Visual Arts Year 1–4 Award, and Visual Arts Undergraduate Leadership Award.
- The MHCCF approved continued funding of \$2,000 toward conservation work of art collections at Agnes Jamieson Gallery. The painting currently undergoing conservation treatment is expected to be completed by the end of May
- The MHCCF agreed to continue supporting Archie Stouffer Elementary School's next student art show.
- The MHCCF continued expanding gift shop inventory through additional purchases. Ongoing development and inventory of the gift shop continues.
- The Artisan Market will begin on Saturday, May 16, with a higher number of participating artisans this year.

6.3. Cultural Days Festival

- The Arts Council Haliburton Highlands will be coordinating Culture Days within Haliburton County from September 18 to October 4.
- Minden Hills Cultural Centre staff attended the info sessions and are open to support the Culture Days this year.

6.4. Events and Exhibits

- The Manager announced upcoming exhibitions at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, including the 2026 Members Exhibition by the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands (May 28 to July 18), with an opening reception and artist talks scheduled for May 30, and Museum of Her by Michèle Karch-Ackerman (May 28 to July 18), with an artist talk in June.
- The Manager also announced that the *Mijim: Traditional Foods of the Lake of the Woods Anishinaabeg Exhibit* exhibit will be available from June 2 to August 29. The traveling exhibit, developed by the Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora, explores Anishinaabe knowledge of food, medicine, and the natural world.
- The Program Coordinator announced that the season opening of the Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature's Place Interpretive Centre will take place on Saturday, May 16, and will feature Victorian tea with finger sandwiches and tarts, a exotic animal display by Browning Reptiles, and a new Mad Hatter Hat decorating workshop for children.
- The Program Coordinator also noted the upcoming outreach sessions at the long-term care unit will focus on a "Cross-Cultural Medicine" theme, where participants will engage with early settler medical tools, Anishinaabe knowledge through the *MIJIM* exhibit, and an introduction to Chinese medicine. The program will also include a guest interpretation by Master Gardeners on native plants and their medicinal uses.
- During the National Pollinator Week, the Cultural Centre will offer a one-hour school program, featuring a guided experience through pollinator exhibits at Nature's Place and pollinator-friendly gardens on site. Hands-on experience will also be available.
- The Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group continued its spring speakers series in collaboration with the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, with adjustments due to a weather-related cancellation on April 28. Tanya Dunlop stepped in to deliver a presentation on Ontario land records, guiding participants through how to interpret historical documents for family and local history research. The series continued with "Apron Memories" by Cathy Bevis on Tuesday, May 19 at 1:00 PM. It concluded with "Lodging Legacies: The Lost Cabins, Camps, and Lodges of the Kashagawigamog Lake Chain" by Linda Lewis-Daly on Tuesday, June 16 at 7:00 PM.

6.5. Potential Guests at Future Meetings

- The Chair discussed the potential of preparing a summary of the Committee's achievements closer to the end of its term this year.
- The Committee explored the potential of inviting individuals or community groups with the intent of fostering future collaboration and highlighting opportunities for partnerships.

7. Recommendations to Council

Moved by Committee Member Adele Espina, seconded by Councillor Pam Sayne, that the Advisory Committee, having reviewed the *Minden Hills Cultural Centre (MHCC) Strategic Plan (2026–2030)* and *Strategic Action Plan (2026–2030)*, supports the documents and recommends that Council approve them for submission as part of the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) application.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 9 at 10:30 AM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Pam Sayne; Seconded by Adele Espina that the May 12, 2026 Cultural Centre Advisory Committee is hereby adjourned at 11:55 AM.