

Kingsville Historical Park Museum
Box 404, Kingsville, Ontario
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November 16, 2020

Mayor Nelson Santos, Deputy Mayor Gord Queen, Councillors: Thomas Neufeld, Larry Patterson, Tony Gaffan, Kimberly DeYong and Laura Lucier:

A report to you and the Staff of the Town of Kingsville regarding the Kingsville Historical Park Museum for the year 2020.

Your meetings are different, actions and activities are different; Covid 19 has changed the world, and because we are not equipped to "zoom" we have taken the liberty to present a written report to Council.

Volunteers and members would first like to thank Council and Staff from the Town of Kingsville for the support of the Museum. The grant of \$10,000.00 was very much appreciated and during this very strange year this money was deposited to help with the expenses for the year. Fundraising came to an end because of the pandemic so this amount was so very important.

March 2020 we closed the doors to the public, and volunteers attended the museum to work on projects and to this date we are still closed to the public but a number of projects are progressing. We also made special appointments for members of the public to attend the Museum for specific purposes following Covid 19 protocol. Examples of our availability; a student to work on a project and donation of artifacts to the Museum.

The volunteers had to revamp the weapons vault having received 43 weapons from the Manfred Bunke Collection. They are just doing the finishing touches on this display as well a number of antique weapons from this collection are on display throughout the Museum.

Two of our members are continuing the work of archiving all the information they can research for the Dieppe project which are documents and photos of all Essex Scottish members who landed on Red Beach. This has been an exhausting project which has taken months and will still continue for a while. At the end of this project we will have binders designated for these Veterans to be remembered always. For some family members the amount of documentation was well received, some information that family did not have.

The designated heritage home display has also been revamped with additional information and stories of the history of Kingsville.

Over the last two years the amount of artifacts that are now on display have increased greatly, with the last display worked on were the artifacts, Medals and clothing worn by Veterans John and Hilda Sim. Hilda Sim was the first female president at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 188 Kingsville.

This report has been authored by me Katherine Gunning a volunteer at the Museum for 20 years and Covid 19 made some changes in my life also, this will be my last report to Council, (at least representing the Museum) I have resigned my volunteer position at the Museum, to be effective January 1, 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Council and the staff, some I have worked with previously and some I do not know personally but it has been a pleasure and it has been a special and enjoyable 20 years at the Museum.

Katherine Gunning *Katherine Gunning*
Secretary/Treasurer

Wayne Bagshaw *Wayne Bagshaw*
Board Chair