

Executive Director's Report June 25, 2018

Good Day, as I come to the end of 6 months, a lot of reflection has taken place. As I shared in the last BOD meeting, things are not moving as fast as I thought or hoped they would. The internal challenges were far greater in terms of trust, transparency and open lines of communication specific to building effective relationships with our staff. That being said, very good work is being done at the gallery to move us forward.

Human Resources – The staff and I are definitely working well together. We finally had a staff meeting. I brought in lunch so that we would really have a conversation versus a structured staff meeting. Quite frankly keeping them on task in terms of beginning and ending a conversation with a measurable outcome was a bit of a challenge. All steps to building a cohesive team, we all have much to share. I continue to take it a day at a time and progress is definitely happening. We discussed the need for them to look at the BOD through a different lens. Open their minds to the fact that this is a different BOD and what went before in terms of moving forward is not only tiresome but not relevant. The BOD is a group of volunteers and has the GAC's best interest in mind, and that would include the staff. I don't know that my expectation was anything more than providing an opportunity for the staff to share their feelings. The consensus was that the gallery is a better place to work and they are happy with me being there.

Website – The website should be live and functioning as we speak. All of the pieces that we need to maintain internally we now can. Ewa seemed to be pleased with what she could delete/ad/and/or update. A few changes were necessary and they have been made. Ewa and I will go through it page by page just to be sure. The site looks great on our mobile devices.

Farmers Market We do not have as great a presence as in previous years. We do not have the same roster of volunteers available. That being said, I do think that we need to be a little more strategic in our planning so maximise our presence. We are working with a new artist, Michelle-Richards. Michelle and I will be at the Farmers Market on July 29, August 26, and September 2. We will have a structured art project for children and youth and I will have some retail items that I will be selling. I have let the market know that we have these three days in place. If we can arrange for volunteers that would be great, but I don't know the true value of someone standing around handing out expensive marketing material that may

end up in the garbage. The Sunday that I attended, traffic was minimal and very little interest was shown. I had an artist with me to engage children and youth and there really were not any. That being said it was only the second Sunday the market was up and running. While we may see cottagers later in the season, we are most likely looking at the same people visiting the market each Sunday. None of the staff are prepared to spend a Sunday at the market. We need to take advantage of every opportunity to generate revenue; however, I do think it should be a staff person who handles sales. The market will provide a tent. We have to take tables x 2 if we are going to do an art project and marketing. They did have chairs for us. Again, further discussion from those prepared to volunteer needs to happen.

Georgina 200 – July 1

The new artist Michelle that we are working with will be creating an interactive mural at Pioneer Village that will celebrate 200 years of Georgina. People will have an opportunity to share what Georgina means to them. This is open to adults, children & youth. They can add to the mural themselves or have Michelle do so. The town is covering the cost for supplies and the artist fee. Phil has asked that I send an Invoice for \$600.00 quoting the G200 Project. Bill has offered to staff a table that will house marketing material. He will be promoting not only the gallery, but our camps too. He will attend the event for a couple of hours; we didn't feel being there all day was necessary.

Magna Hoedown

My first meeting was June 20th. It was welcome/orientation meeting. The formal Hoedown Kick off is July 5th. Wendy and I will be attending along with our partner GTTI. We are hoping to have Raffle and Event tickets in early July. We are at the mercy of the OLG

HR Manual I am working on it. Some question around language that requires some clarification. A few minor changes required.

Summer Camp

Quick Update – The Instructors have been in place for several months. We have completed the required paperwork for the Federal Government to hire our staff. That was much more laborious than in previous years. The Camp support staff is returning staff from last year. Their first day is Tuesday. I will be doing WHIMIS training with them at GTTI next Thursday, so that they are certified. Wendy will continue to be the point person for Camps with me being the early morning staff person to manage extended care.

Bookkeeper

We hired Leslie Patterson a graduate of the GTTI Bookkeeping program. I reached out to my colleague at GTTI when we were looking to hire, and Leslie came highly recommended. I was also contacted by a local accountant that I had interviewed on Georgina Life. She had heard that Leslie was coming into meet with us and wanted to provide a reference for her even before we met. Both Meaghan and I are very pleased to have Leslie join our team.

Pot Luck at the GAC

I was the MC at an event at the Link and arrived at the gallery around 1:30. It was a lively conversation that I walked in on. One of our members was being very vocal and quite frankly fanning the flames of mutiny as I walked through the door. He was telling the room that our Board Chair had stepped down and another Director had resigned all this because he saw that we were looking for new Board Members. He was starting on me when I arrived. Who was I and what did I do, I should have been there etc. He changed his tune when I walked in and announced myself. I will share my personal thoughts about this in our next BOD meeting.

South Lake Community Innovation Fund

Our proposal was not presented for review at the end of May as I was told it would be. It is being presented at the end of June review meeting. I am not entirely clear on the reason why, but nevertheless, I am still hopeful that we will be successful. We requested 50% of the cost of our camp Tshirts and 50% of the cost of an Ipad.

Renovation of Classroom Space

I contacted 2 x 4 Company who had done the original quote to and get a revised quote. In following up two weeks later, there had been a family emergency and he had forgotten. The costs would normally increase, however he was prepared to go with the numbers he provided us June 20, 2017 and wished us well with our proposal. I have forwarded the revised numbers to Phil, Anita and Bill. While I am confused, the town staff person – Lawrence required this cost before he could take the renovation request forward. There is no cost to the town and it was made very clear that no structural changes were to be made and we revised the quote accordingly. Hopefully we will be able to move forward. I would like to begin to work on the Trillium foundation proposal. Thank you Phil for inviting Lawrence so we could speak to him and thank you Lawrence for taking our proposal forward.

Feedback for the GAC: Artrepreneur Program

People who knew about GAC prior to the program: 7/13

People who didn't know about the GAC prior to the program: 5/14

N/A: 1/13

Majority would be interested in taking a class now that they have been exposed to the GAC

Majority would be interested in exhibiting work or visiting the GAC in the future

11/13 thought that the GAC was a really great space to host this program in Georgina

Beautiful art work displayed all the time

Love this amazing space!

Thanks for hosting us. Good location!

Awesome facility!

Nice space and great program, I'm learning a lot!