

Dear members of Solidarity Cooperative of Musée Fairbairn Museum,

Welcome to the first bi-monthly electronic newsletter of the Musée Fairbairn Museum. As you know we are a regional project that encompasses not only Wakefield but all the MRC located on the Gatineau River (MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais, MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, and MRC de Pontiac). In our newsletter, you will find the latest information about our project. Do not forget to visit our new website at [www.fairbairn.ca](http://www.fairbairn.ca); if you have any questions, suggestions or comments, you can contact us through our website or directly through Fabian Mugny, our Secretary and Project Coordinator at [fabian.mugny@fairbairn.ca](mailto:fabian.mugny@fairbairn.ca).

The Musée Fairbairn Museum Project began three years ago, and now we are in its final stage; the museum will open in summer 2008! Momentum is growing as we move towards completing our funding applications. It is hoped that all the money will be in place to begin work on the site and exhibitions, by the spring of 2008. We have planned for work to begin inside the museum in the winter and spring of 2008, and to begin work on the grounds when the ground thaws. We will continue to update as we go along.

The Board of Directors would like to thank all members who came to our General Assembly of Organization that took place on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This was a crucial step and a very important event for the future of the museum, and we are happy to see that people were there to support this exciting project. We also would like to thank two new members, Ms. Linda Kellar and Ms. Jayne Elliott. Thank you for joining our cooperative!

We encourage all members to talk about the museum with family and friends, in order to get more members. The greater the number, the better we will be able to serve the community!

### **Membership Drive!**

On 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2007, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., our museum would like to share a table with the Friends of Gatineau Park during the Colonel By Day, which is taking place at the Bytown Museum, to promote the Musée Fairbairn Museum. We would like to ask our members if someone is willing to take part in this event and promote the museum. Krista Cooke will be able to attend the event for a couple of hours but not all day. If you want to help out, please contact her at 819-459-3549 or 819-776-8366.

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the GVHS auction is taking place at St Stephen's Church in Chelsea. Jonathan Murphy and Michael cooper will have a table set up with promotional materials, and they will be selling memberships. If you would like to help out, please contact Michael Cooper at [cooperm@wakenet.ca](mailto:cooperm@wakenet.ca).

### **Your new executive**

Right after our AGO, the new Board of Directors held its first meeting, and elected the officers:

Jonathan Murphy: President  
Marc Cockburn: Vice-president  
John Kingsley: Treasurer

Fabian Mugny: Secretary

### **Presentations of the project**

During a meeting, on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Mr. Robert Bussière, Mayor of the Municipality of La Pêche, and Mr. Charles Ricard asked Jonathan Murphy and Fabian Mugny to present the project to the Municipal Council. This presentation will take place on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

Mr. Jonathan Murphy will also do a presentation to Wakefield Commerce in order to promote the project.

### **Funding**

The museum has identified all of the sources of funding required to complete the project. Let's take a moment to discuss these funds, and what we've received so far.

#### **Funding from the CLD des Collines-de-l'Outaouais**

The CLD des Collines-de-l'Outaouais has confirmed the first \$10,000 of funding from the *Fonds d'économie social*; we will ask \$10,000 more next year. Following the AGO, we are pleased to announce that the CLD has approved the \$60,000 of funding from the *Fonds du pacte rural* divided up in three years, and pending a number of conditions that we are presently working towards fulfilling.

#### **Funding from the Municipality of La Pêche**

The municipality has studied our funding request for \$80,000 divided up in three years. We met with Mr. Robert Bussière and Mr. Charles Ricard, on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007, to discuss the comments they had sent to us concerning the Business Plan, and to go through our answers. Their final decision should be known by the end of July, or the beginning of August.

#### **Funding from the Canadian Heritage Information Network**

We are pleased to inform you that our proposal for the production of a Community Memories virtual exhibit entitled "*The William Fairbairn House: A witness to change along the Gatineau*" has been approved for a \$5,000 investment from the CHIN.

### **Exhibitions and Programming**

Our Exhibitions and Programming Committee is in the process of putting together a plan for the first programs and exhibitions for the museum. If you have any ideas, it is time to contact the members of this committee; members include Tamara Tarasoff and Krista Cooke. Please contact Tamara Tarasoff at [tamara.tarasoff@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tamara.tarasoff@pc.gc.ca), or Krista Cooke at [krista.cooke@civilization.ca](mailto:krista.cooke@civilization.ca).

### **Construction**

We hope to begin inside renovations this winter, depending on the fundraising process. Contractor engineers are being contacted for estimates for the septic system, well and for the Museum.

Mrs. Chantal Belleau, who wrote the Business Plan and the feasibility study, will be completing the remaining funding application forms from public and private financial institutions. Moreover, Mr. Kensel Tracy, from Colterman Marketing Canada, is going to plan a Sponsorship Marketing Assessment for the museum. This will help us find sponsors and offer profitable packages to businesses.

Our Fundraising Committee includes Mrs. Anne Robillard, Mr. Kensel Tracy, Mr. Jonathan Murphy, and Mr. Fabian Mugny. If you would like to help with Fundraising, please let us know. We are hoping that members like you can come up with ideas and help run events that will raise money and awareness of our project.

### **Wakefield Commerce & business partnerships**

Jonathan Murphy will be presenting the possible partnerships, products, and services that the museum will be offering to Wakefield Commerce. If you know of a business, a service, or an event that could be held at our site, please let us know. The museum wants to showcase those products and services that are unique to our region and can help us tell the story of the Gatineau Valley. Please contact Jonathan Murphy at [jmurph@geocogntion.com](mailto:jmurph@geocogntion.com).

### **Ongoing efforts**

Currently, our Project Coordinator, Fabian Mugny, is working on requests of letters of support we are going to send to businesses, and to public institutions such as Tourism Outaouais, Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec, and Conseil régional de la culture de l'Outaouais.

Here is the latest news concerning our project. One more time, we would like to thank you for your support. We are looking forward to hearing from you and receiving your comments and ideas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Jonathan Murphy  
President