

**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date and time:** August 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM (Zoom)

**In attendance:** Brad Evoy, Shannon Kilburn, Hana Syed, Liza Chalaidopoulos

**Staff:** Chris Bateman (Acting Chair), Laura Carlson, Meg Sutton

**Regrets:** Sarah Watson (Chair), Andrew Himel, Joshua Lax, Gretchen Mangahas, Sanah Rizvi, Lynne DiStefano,

ITEM	DISCUSSION
<b>1. Intro Remarks from Chair</b>	Chris Bateman called the meeting to order at 5:36pm
<b>2. Approval of Feb 27, 2024 Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MOVED: Shannon Kilburn</li><li>• SECONDED: Hana Syed</li></ul>
<b>3. Tours Update from Laura Carlson</b>	<p>Laura Carlson delivered the Tours program update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Liza Chalaidopoulos: Complemented tours during the Necropolis tent event. Said the tour was really eye-opening and a hidden gem of the city</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>4. Plaques Program Update from Chris Bateman</b>	<p>Chris Bateman delivered the Plaques Program update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Shannon Kilburn: Curious about the Hungarian Church plaque location and if it is a series?</li><li>◦ Chris Bateman: The St. Elizabeth Church group applied, the building itself is gone, but was at Dundas and Spadina. Commemorating the programs and services in the 50s and 60s to help people get settled. Hungarian Consulate funded and supported the unveiling later in the 2024 year.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>5. For Information Section</b>	Chris Bateman delivered the list of 2024 Legacy Plaque subjects for information
<b>6. Plaque Report: No 2 Construction Battalion</b>	Chris Bateman: Subject approved by email due to rush for production for the November remembrance day event.

<b>7. Plaque Report: Foon Hay Lum</b>	<p>Chris Bateman provided a verbal summary of the plaque report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Brad Evoy: Have we thought about who to consult?</li> <li>◦ Chris Bateman: I haven't got to that point yet. Suspect there will overlap with the same folks involved in the Chinese Exclusion Act. Happy to have expertise at the table and lean on your contacts for support.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ MOVED: Brad Evoy</li> <li>◦ SECONDED: Shannon Kilburn</li> </ul>
<b>8. Plaque Report: Home Service Association</b>	<p>Meg Sutton provided a verbal summary of the plaque report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ MOVED: Shannon Kilburn</li> <li>◦ SECONDED: Hana Syed</li> </ul>
<b>9. Plaque Report: Conrad the Raccoon</b>	<p>Chris Bateman provided a verbal summary of the plaque report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Shannon Kilburn: What history will be on this plaque?</li> <li>◦ Chris Bateman: The plaque will focus primarily on the relationship between humans and raccoons in Toronto: the history of them as urban dwellers, why they thrive here, the challenges of living with raccoons, and how they have come to be the city's unofficial mascot. The "funeral" for the raccoon will be the hook. We have had success raising the agency's profile and generating earned media for the plaques program like this in the past, for example on the Whoopee Cushion plaque.</li> <li>◦ Meg Sutton: To add, ecologists once feared raccoons could become extinct. However, the population has actually grown with the city over the past 100 years.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ MOVED: Brad Evoy</li> <li>◦ SECONDED: Hana Syed</li> </ul>
<b>10. New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad Evoy: It's been a while since we talked about the strategic vision for diversity and distribution of plaques. Is there a plan to look into this in more detail?</li> <li>• Chris Bateman: From an analysis of the plaques program last year, we have data and statistics on the themes covered by our plaques and geography. Last year we analyzed the plaques program, using a master database, and tagging themes. Staff have discussed bringing a report to the committee and board later in 2024 or in early 2025.</li> </ul>
<b>11. Adjournment</b>	<p>Motion to adjourn at 6:22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ MOVED: Brad Evoy</li> <li>◦ SECONDED: Shannon Kilburn</li> </ul>
<b>12. Next meeting</b>	<p>November 20, 2024</p>