



## September 2025 - News and Updates!

### Members Only

### Walking Tour of Marysville by Wolfe Island Historical Society Saturday, September 27

Come and take **an autumn walking tour of historic Marysville**, including the Old House Museum, with Brian MacDonald, a member of the Wolfe Island Historical Society! The tour will meet in front of the Town Hall (1911 Main St) at 1 p.m. The guided tour will take about an hour.

## Walking Tour of Marysville by Wolfe Island Historical Society





**Saturday September 27, 2025**

From Kingston take the 12 p.m. ferry, get the shuttle to Marysville and our guide will meet us at the town hall (1191 Main Street) at 1 p.m.

Walk will be about one hour. Members only.  
Please sign up at [contact@frontenacheritage.ca](mailto:contact@frontenacheritage.ca)



From Kingston and area, if you intend to walk onto the ferry for the tour, take the Wolfe Islander III at noon and once on shore at Dawson's Point, take the free shuttle and be dropped off in the village (approximately 4 km away) at the Town Hall. If driving to the Kingston downtown ferry site and then walking on board, you can park your car at the public parking lot (city metered lot) across from Slush Puppy Place and then cross at the Barrack Street/Ontario Street traffic light to the boarding area.

If you prefer to take your vehicle/car to Wolfe Island, take any ferry on the hour from Kingston but be sure to meet the tour by the Town Hall at 1 p.m. The noon ferry will get you to the tour on time.

The tour will be approximately one (1) hour and the return is at your convenience. The Kingston bound ferry leaves Dawson's Point on the half hour with the shuttle service leaving Marysville at ten past the hour to make the half hour ferry departure.

*\*If for some reason the ferry schedule changes, we will contact those folk that have signed up for the tour with the up-to-date details.*

**The tour is for members only** and you can sign up at [contact@frontenacheritage.ca](mailto:contact@frontenacheritage.ca)

**Interesting Fact:** Wolfe Island, known as Kawehnóhkwas tsi kawè, is the largest of the famed 1000 Islands in the St Lawrence River. During the French regime, it was called Grand Isle, but by proclamation of John Graves Simcoe, it was re-named Wolfe Island in July 1792 in honour of British General James Wolfe. The town of Marysville was named after Mary (Nee Hinckley) Hitchcock, one of the first permanent settlers on the island and is the main population/commercial centre on the island.

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## **Our Proposed Upcoming Events for the Year!** 📅

**Wednesday, October 15 - Members only tour of Fairbanks Farmhouse,**

## 1553 Sunnyside Rd by FHF member Peter Lawton

Drop-in between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to hear the history of this circa 1840 Ontario farmhouse. An excellent example of a Georgian-influenced, vernacular bank house (a house built into a hill) with its asymmetrical front facade that does not face the front road. Peter has done a magnificent job of renovating this charming home.



**Tuesday, November 12** – Our annual **FHF Heritage Conservation Awards Ceremony** at the Renaissance Event Centre, 285 Queen Street, starting at 6:30 p.m. Awards ceremony at 7 p.m. Now is the time of the year when we start compiling ideas for Heritage Conservation Awards. **If you see work on a listed or designated building which was completed in 2024 and is deserving of an award, please let us know!** [contact@frontenacheritage.ca](mailto:contact@frontenacheritage.ca)

**Sunday, December 14, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** – **FHF Social** at the Spire, lower hall. Treats and Talk - update closer to December!

Stay tuned for more information about these upcoming events, including dates and times. If you wish to assist in planning and set up your help is appreciated!

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## News Of Utmost Importance - Media News

The Frontenac Heritage Foundation, the Heritage Properties Committee (HPC) and members of the Foundation have been deeply concerned on the resistance to Ontario Heritage Act designations (Part IV) by various property owners and City Council. This includes the recent unanimous decision of Council on August 12 to de-designate a rural dwelling at 2555 Hwy #38 known as the Davidson House. This decision went against a recommendation from the Heritage Properties Committee (HPC) on July 16 denying the request to de-designate.

The FHF president on behalf of the Board of Directors wrote a [letter of support](#) to the Heritage Properties Committee asking that the designation be retained. The HPC in their recommendation to Council for the August 12 meeting recommended that the request for de-designation be denied. This was also the recommendation of the City's staff report.

staff report.

Council at its August 12 meeting reversed the HPC decision, then unanimously voted to de-designate the Davidson House. This was not done because the house was not appreciated for its heritage attributes BUT because of an anticipated increase in insurance premiums. The homeowner did not shop around as suggested and attested to by heritage owners who are members of the HPC ... clearly not a heritage-based decision.

The attached links are for letters noting a decision by the [FHF Board NOT to appeal the decision of Council](#) and the rationale for doing so. Also attached is a [letter by Peter Lawton](#) noting his disgust at Council's decision to de-designate. Members are welcome to comment back to the board on their thoughts on this issue.

### **Other News: City of Kingston New Official Plan**

The City of Kingston is undertaking a new [Official Plan and Integrated Mobility Plan](#) and is consulting with the community. If you wish to be involved stay informed and sign up/subscribe on the Get Involved tab on the city of Kingston website. ([www.cityofkingston.ca](http://www.cityofkingston.ca))

The draft Official plan is out for public review with comments due by November 28, 2025. [Official Plan and Integrated Mobility Plan | Get Involved Kingston by Communications & Public Engagement](#)

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## **In Case You Missed It ...**



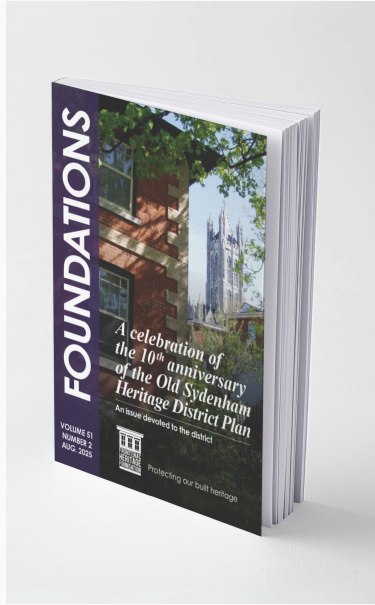
### **Tour of the Fairfield-Guitzeit Museum, Monday August 11**

Sixteen members joined us for a 1.5 hour guided tour by Loyalist Twp guides, Sam and Ella. The tour featured period renovations and an amazing number of artifacts from the Fairfield-Guitzeit family including furnishings, fabrics, clothing, and paintings. Take a tour - it is spectacular!

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### **Recently added to the Frontenac Heritage Foundation website:**

- **New!** Catch up on previous editions of the monthly newsletter [here](#)
  - changing membership and donation links to lead to embedded Zeffy forms on our website rather than out to Zeffy
  - adding Zeffy fee disclaimer
  - reworking website news section to add past newsletters (what used to be "News" is now "Heritage Conservation Updates"
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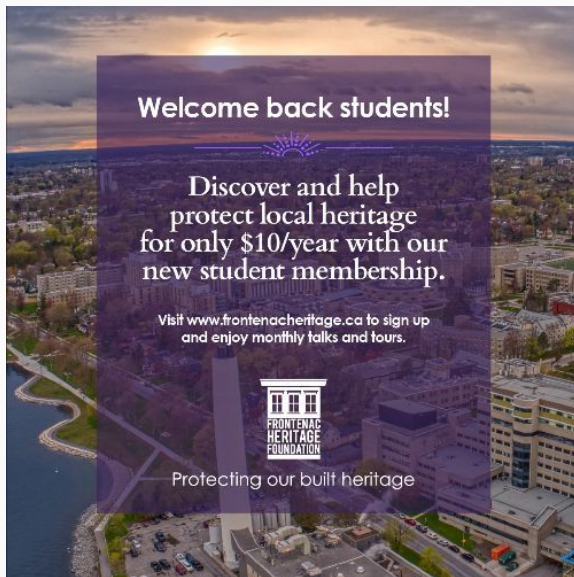


## Members Only - Summer Foundation Issue

In case you missed it! The Summer Foundations edition, celebrating 10 years of the Old Sydenham Heritage Conservation District is available on the members-only section of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation website.

What's Inside:

- How the Old Sydenham Heritage Conservation District Came to Be
- How the Annandale Acquired Its Huge Courtyard
- An Icon in Old Sydenham is Rebuilt
- The First Houses of William Newlands
- National Memorial to the Fallen under Construction in MacDonald Park



## Attention All Students!

If you have any local family members who are students or have connections to students as clients or tenants, point out the benefits of joining the Frontenac Heritage Foundation for only \$10 per year! Great events and knowledge for projects!

## Other Items of Interest - RCHA Fundraising for Elevator Retrofit

Greetings all RCHA Members and Friends of RCHA!

As many have heard, the RCHA has received a federal grant for \$124,909 which is 75 per cent of the KONE contract to retrofit the elevator. This retrofit is essential and has been a need for several years. The retrofit updates all, including obsolete & unavailable replacements, of electronic & electrical components and the cab remains the same. The retrofit will also require some electrical updates related to the elevator room and the base of the elevator shaft. RCHA estimated cost over and above the

room and the base of the elevator shaft. RCHA estimated cost over and above the grant is \$45,000.

The RCHA is a not-for-profit association (not a registered charity) and has historically welcomed capital contributions during the annual membership renewal as well as for other significant capital items and is very grateful to all who have contributed in the past. The RCHA board is reaching out to all of you for any capital contribution that you may be able to provide for this unprecedented significant cost.

Any and all amounts of contribution are most welcome. If we achieve our goal, the current capital contribution fund of approximately \$5,000 can be used for other high priority capital items. All capital contributions can be made either by mailing a cheque to the RCHA at 193 Ontario St Kingston K7L2Y7 or by asking a bar steward to accept the retrofit contribution by cash, debit, credit card or cheque (debit & cheque preferred) and a receipt will be provided. As a not for profit association, the receipt is not claimable as an income tax credit but it's still a feel-good opportunity to contribute to an association that is operating since 1947!

Best regards from the board of the RCHA



## Who We Are

**The Frontenac Heritage Foundation (FHF)** is a not-for-profit organization, created in 1972 to promote the preservation of buildings and contribute to the heritage of Kingston, Frontenac County, Loyalist Township, Gananoque and Leeds, and the Thousand Islands. The Foundation's board of directors, all volunteers, with the support of paid members, work to raise awareness to those who live and work in our communities about the importance of protecting built heritage. Benefits of membership include a monthly newsletter, invitations to special events, the November Awards ceremony and so much more! Memberships run for the calendar year but new members are welcome anytime! More information can be found at [www.frontenacheritage.ca/membership](http://www.frontenacheritage.ca/membership)



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