

**MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EXECUTIVE MEETING – OCTOBER 21, 2010 – 7 p.m.
COMMITTEE ROOM AT GREY AG. SERVICES, MARKDALE**

AGENDA

ATTENDING: Charmaine Peever, Kathy Gamblen, Wayne Fitzgerald, Lynn Silverton, Don Kopplin, Janie Badgerow, Anne Watson (markdale@greenhawk.com; highmeadows@explorenet.com)

REGRETS: Doug Crawford, Rick Gamblen

CALL TO ORDER: 7 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The board reviewed the minutes from the previous minutes of Sept. 23, 2010.

MOTION: Moved by Lynn Silverton, seconded by Kathy Gamblen that the minutes of the Sept. 23rd meeting of the executive be approved as presented. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING (if not under another heading):

- ***FT Hill Funds*** – update on discussions on formation of foundation– package of proposals and judgement attached to agenda this meeting. For review before the AGM. Peter Cathcart is working with Eber Willis is preparing a proposal for the AGM. Not decided yet how this will be presented at the AGM.

ACTION: Wayne will discuss with Eber.

- ***FT Hill investment of funds*** – resubmitted the board signing officers cards to the bank. Still pending investment at bank.
- ***Membership drive*** – awaiting brochure creation for renewals (as below)

ACTION: Kate and Kathy will meet to produce a membership brochure.

- ***Olde Firehall Repairs*** – drain invoice sent to Municipality – quotes doors/painting – lighting pending. Lynn had suggested the doors could be replaced within a quote. Reminder that Hydro One will do lighting – follow-up. Anne had her store done, Don's office has been done. Flesherton Library has also been done.

ACTION: Kate will follow-up with Dan Best at municipality. Another quote for doors from Wayne/Lynn – at municipality. Janie will pass on info to Kate for lighting follow-up.

- ***Welcome Wagon*** – will include Chamber package for contra membership.

MOTION: Moved by Wayne Fitzgerald seconded by Janie Badgerow that the Welcome Wagon may become a contra member of the Chamber for the year 2011.

ACTION: Kate will confirm this contra deal and ask Cathy to attend the AGM.

- ***Farmers' Market*** – sandwich board from Lynn? – market closed for season. Need to create policies and fee structure. Contract for vendors to sign as part of vendor at building.

ACTION: Kate will meet with vendors and create a memo of understanding with vendors.

- ***Report on Rural Downtown Revitalization Summit/BR&E Update*** – Charmaine reported on the summit she attended over the past couple of days in Pike Lake. She was the only volunteer in the room – all other attendees were paid staff of some municipal organization or Chamber or such. Some had done BR&E's but not done task forces etc. Will provide a more detailed report for a future meeting. High caliber speakers at the summit were excellent. Learned much there and has continued to inform her BR&E process. Brought some interesting ideas for

consideration. Some simple, some costly. Networking etc. Downtown Georgetown has butt cans made of recycled juice cans with laminated printed pieces on them – to put throughout downtown.

A ministry representative was there to discuss a grant which was given to a downtown group. There are funds and grants out there to improve downtown – one community got \$400,000 to improve their downtown. We have people who want to do this – feel a change coming at municipal level from CAO and council.

Recommended a road trip around the municipality to look at our downtowns – not just Flesherton and Markdale. Look at retail clusters to view municipality. Wayne said it is time for a change, Saugeen Economic Development Advisory Committee had done this previously. Took turns moving meetings to different towns – host would organize a trip to look at downtowns. Build on momentum of change.

ACTION: Create butt cans for downtown. Anne has a laminator – Greenhawk logo on it for helping with laminator. Kate and Charmaine to follow-up on potential funding opportunities. Time to have someone else from community to sit on SEDC advisory committee.

- **All Candidates Meeting** – report on co-production with Flesherton Chamber – Kathy reported on the success of the Chambers mutual all candidate meeting. Lynn suggested she thought it was the best one held during the campaign. Wayne suggested it was funny how candidates got onboard with economic development, after not supporting it financially in successive municipal budgets. Kathy outlined how she sent out letters to all. Set up well. School trustees added at last minute, came in early to allow them to leave early to make a Southgate meeting as well. Lynn suggested the school board could submit funds for the payment of the hall. Kathy and Charmaine suggested the Chambers hosted so shared the costs of the hall rental. Follow up thank you letters sent out – looked for survey for feedback. Only complaint was containing them to 2 minutes. Speeches had to be abbreviated. Audience questions were good – wanted more questions. Flavour of evening got covered in a few questions. Little disappointed in the numbers of business people attending – would have liked more business people out.
- **After 6 Event** – update from Kathy re: Dawna hosting after election – social event to allow business community for networking. Kathy approached Dawna – was concerned about wine in the shop. Felt there is apathy – to organize an event and have no one show up. Anne mentioned store owners have casually gathered to do this kind of things. She suggested retailers are really tired at the end of their day – then to go home and take care of home as well. So much stress – hard to convince people to come out for this kind of event. Kathy suggested they are invited all over Grey Bruce to this kind of event – some areas have upwards of 100 people at events. Sometimes do new members only networking. Trade business cards and see who we can support mutually. People are busy, they don't necessarily network. Wasn't just for downtown area, could be located there. Doesn't want to give up, but still a pending idea. Have networking games like collecting business cards. Could rent a hall – Masonic or Pavillion in Flesherton. The idea was to spotlight a business.

ACTION: Kathy will continue to look at this idea. Wayne offered his newly renovated shop at the back. Could do a tour through the shops and have wine and cheese to follow.

PROJECTS REPORT:

- **Creative Communities Prosperity Fund** –2-day workshop Oct. 29 & 30. Who is attending? Kathy Gamblen – may leave early on the 30th. Charmaine coming for lunch. Janet Kopplin.
- **Healthy Communities Fund** – ongoing – GFB expanding/workshops in winter on healthy living – UPDATE...
- **BR&E Study** – Task Force has had two meetings – Next is Oct. 27 at 6 p.m.- Charmaine reported that she and Kate are meeting with Pat Kuntz of OMAFRA to review how the next meeting of visioning will be conducted and supported. Visioning session will inform the final report process and implementation plan.

ACTION: Janie needs a copy of the report – on our website.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Doug Crawford was absent.

- *Economic Development Committee* – nothing to report.
- *Tim Horton's Development* – if appeal to OMB will be notified.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- *Renewals* - will go out December/January
- *Card to new owners at McCann Plumbing* – pending
- *New business in Markdale* – Portrait Studio – card
- *Four Seasons* – who is following up with them. They are away on holiday. Will follow-up with a renewal.

ACTION: Kate to create a blank card to give to welcome, anniversary etc. Card to Markdale Tractor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- *Presentation of latest financial report* – Don Kopplin
Treasurer reviewed the current financial statement with the executive. Low bank balance but should be okay with funds available to end of year – especially with insurance commissions.

MOTION: Moved by Wayne Fitzgerald seconded by Kathy Gamblen that the financial statement be accepted as presented. Carried.

- *Payables* – see attached

MOTION: Moved by Janie Badgerow seconded by Wayne Fitzgerald that the payables be approved, with deferral of the FEO and library book costs and addition of speaker fees and travel costs for Dan Taylor for cultural workshops. And the treasurer be directed to pay the bills. Carried.

- *2011 Budget* – include lawn tractor – special meeting for this. Present as draft at November meeting.

ACTION: Kate will draft for review by the treasurer – including signage and lawn tractor.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

- *Local History Books* – Now have them for sale at Olde Firehall – price list attached
- *Funds* – Potential to seek Olde Firehall grant for building upgrades for Farmers' Market - pending
- *JCP Project* – coming end November 2010 – for additional BR&E – ag. sector Kathy/Charmaine in on hiring
- *Santa Parade* - closure complete – sponsor letters out – DRD booked – see budget for approval.

MOTION: Moved by Kathy Gamblen seconded by Wayne Fitzgerald that the Santa Claus parade budget be approved as presented. Carried.

- *Moonlight Madness* – Not supporting radio – retailers will support – sponsor for horsedrawn tour – retailers have met about the Moonlight Madness – did a half-page ad in previous years – business sponsored ad. Dawna has confirmed she will do two spots to advertise on this. Place to week prior to Christmas. After parade – shop local campaign. Another ad in January – to thank you.

ACTION: Chamber to pitch in a support the cost of a half page ad.

MOTION: Moved by Janie Badgerow seconded by Charmaine Peever that the Chamber support the advertising as detailed as above. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- *Welcome Wagon* – offer to contra package for membership – approved – as above.
- *Centre Grey Health Services Foundation* – curling bonspiel – interest in putting in a team - see RBA team if interest.
- *Four County Labour Board* – Skills trailer booking – any event this would be good for – not sure at this date.
- *Doors Open 2011* – any interest in having such an event in Grey Highlands? Present at AGM to see if interest.
- *Ministry of Tourism & Culture* – program review of marketing partnership – review & file.
- *Ministry of Tourism & Culture* – announcement of 2011 Creative Communities grant program – apply.

- *Accessibility Directorate of Ontario* – accessibility compliance advice – file
- *Sustainable Communities conference* – no interest in attending. Feb. 2011
- *Community Power Conference* – Nov. 15-16 in Toronto – no interest in attending.
- *Group Insurance* – list of commissions - \$476.56
- *Transportation conference* – Dec. 7 & 8 – Toronto – no interest in attending.
- *High Performance & Sustainable Buildings summit* – Mar. 1&2 – not attending.
- *CCRA* – Tax relief programs for First Nations – file

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Downtown planters** – ground planters by horticultural society – stored in Olde Firehall
- **Hanging planters** – need to be taken down and stored or returned to Casa Del Sol – Doug/Janie are doing it.
- **AGM** – date is November 18 – will invite Harry, have Welcome Wagon rep, draft budget, annual report, year-end financials, FT Hill foundation - nominations – see previous years for who is up for renewal.

ACTION: Card of thanks to water flowerers and horticultural society. where – get quotes from Steven’s? Country Club. Invite Flesherton Chamber.

ADJOURNMENT: 9 p.m.

MARKDALE CHAMBER - PAYABLES OCTOBER 2010

PREPAID (by bank account):

Telizon – October bill	69.63	
SUBTOTAL	69.63	69.63

REGULAR BILLS:

Union Gas (June/July/August/Sept)	\$21.47	
<i>(May, June Shop Local/Farmers' Market)</i>		
Leeson True Value (office/firehall supply)	93.77	
Municipality of Grey Highlands (water)	47.46	
Markdale Flowers – sign shop flowers	36.16	
SUBTOTAL	198.86	198.86

GRANT ACCOUNT BILLS:

Bayshore Broadcasting (radio ads)	226.00	
<i>(this was for cultural grant – paid from that account)</i>		
Dundalk Herald (newspaper ads)	92.89	
<i>(cultural grant public meeting notices)</i>		
Murray's Print Shop (pub. Mtgs.)	27.12	
SUBTOTAL	346.01	346.01

PROPOSED:

FEO Membership (2011)	67.80	
Grey Highlands Public Library (books)	135.60	
SUBTOTAL	203.40	203.40

TOTAL BILLS	471.89	346.01
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MARKDALE CHAMBER - SANTA PARADE 2010
DRAFT-BUDGET
For presentation at Oct. 21, 2010 Exec. Meeting

<u>SANTA'S HORSE TEAM:</u>	BUDGET	'09 ACTUAL	'09 BUDGET
Craig Dennis – 519-986-2004	250.00	225.00	225.00
<i>not Confirmed</i>			
<u>BANDS (from 2008 list):</u>			
Dragon Ritual Drummers <i>(confirmed)</i>	500.00	---	---
Beetle Bailey – Flatbed for drummers <i>(519-372-5693) – confirmed Oct. 7 – call week prior</i>	100.00	---	---
Pipe Band (TBA) <i>Brad Fraser – 370-0087 or 376-6724</i>	700.00	675.00	675.00
Owen Sound Twirlettes Lynda VanDyck 519-376-5807 <i>(booked – price not confirmed)</i>	400.00	360.00	340.00
GHSS Band	100.00	---	---
<u>CANDY FOR SANTA to give out at Library</u>			
Candy canes (Foodland/Foodtown)	300.00	339.53	DONATED
Candy Canes for Moonlight Madness	Donated	Donated	Donated
<u>ADVERTISING:</u>			
Newspaper advertising (Markdale – lead up /thank you)	300.00	292.70	233.41
<u>PRIZES</u>			
4 @ \$25 – float categories	100.00	100.00	100.00
3 @ \$50, 30, 20 ea. – best dressed window	100.00	120.00 (tie)	25.00
– TOTAL EXPENSES:	2850.00	2512.70	2,498.41+ tax

Oct. 21, 2010 - Executive Meeting: Motion: Moved by _____, seconded by _____ that the Santa Claus parade budget, as amended, be approved. Carried.

POTENTIAL SPONSORS (based on 2009 levels) 2010 request '09 Actual 2009 Budget

Municipality of Grey Highlands	500.00	500.00	500.00
Chapman's letter Oct. 14/10	400.00	350.00	350.00
Rotary Club of Markdale letter Oct. 14/10	500.00	650.00	500.00
Aero Industries letter Oct. 14/10	500.00	350.00	350.00
Downtown Stores (CC/GE/PJK/MK)	100.00	225.00	
Bargain Centre (donated candy Moonlight Madness)			
Markdale Vets letter Oct. 14/10	250.00	200.00	200.00

– **TRADITIONAL SPONSORS** =====
2250.00 2275.00 2090.00

POTENTIAL FOR PROFIT/LOSS (600.00) (517.70) (300.00)

2010 NEW SPONSORS

Flesherton/Markdale Legion	\$200.	100.00	---	\$200.00
Royal LePage – letter Oct. 14,10	\$100.	100.00	100.00	\$100.00
Medike – letter Oct. 14/10	\$100.	100.00	100.00	No response
TD Bank –letter Oct. 14/10	\$100.	100.00	---	\$100.00
Scotiabank –letter Oct. 14/10	\$100.	100.00	coming	\$100.00
BMO – letter Oct. 14/10	\$100	100.00	---	No response
Harris & Willis –letter Oct. 14/10	\$100	100.00	100.00	\$25
Dunlop Johnson – letter Oct. 14/10	\$100	100.00	---	No response
Foodland/Foodtown (donate candy?)				

– **POTENTIAL FROM NEW SPONSORS** **800.00 500.00 525.00**

POTENTIAL PROFIT/LOSS +200.00

ADDITIONAL APPROACHED '09:

J. Burnside Real Estate– letter Oct. 14/10 \$100.00 100.00

– Re/Max High Country Realty – letter Oct. 14/10 \$100.00 ---

– **NEW POTENTIAL** **\$200.00 100.00**

POTENTIAL PROFIT/LOSS +400.00

ACTION: Will also approach: Markdale Tractor/Pharmacy/Huron Bay Coop/RBA

F.T. HILL
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSAL

BY THE
MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PREPARED BY:
Wayne R. Fitzgerald, President
Markdale Chamber of Commerce
23 Toronto St. S.
Markdale, Ontario
N0C 1H0
Phone/Fax 519.986-3898

The Markdale Chamber of Commerce received its charter as a non-profit member of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce on June 24, 1980.

The Chamber is comprised of five officers and seven directors nominated and elected from its members at large, which as of August 2006, included 85 businesses. The Chamber now boasts one full time employee and one part time employee through a Trillium Grant and an HRDC Grant in collaboration with the Markdale Ice Cream Festival. We are now interviewing for one more full time employee through an HRDC grant to create a volunteer registry for all festivals, events and service clubs in the area and head up three new events in the area including a volunteer recognition gala.

The Chamber also encourages non-business citizens of Markdale to participate as non-voting members in order to facilitate a broader range of participation outside of the business community.

As prescribed by Section 2, of its Articles, “The object of the Markdale Chamber of Commerce shall be to promote trade and commerce and the economic, civic and social welfare of the district served by its members”.

In the past, the Markdale Chamber has promoted the commerce of the village by organising and operating local trade fairs, tractor pulls and Santa Claus Parades. More recently, its members spearheaded the drive of organising, along with other service groups and citizens, the annual Markdale Ice Cream Festival, which includes a very popular vintage car cruise night, run by the Chamber, to help promote commerce in the downtown core. The Chamber was also recently instrumental, in encouraging the municipality to purchase a burned out vacant lot in the downtown core, then raised funds to develop it into a walk-through garden to help promote off street parking in the Main Street west downtown core.

One of the functions of the Chamber is to operate a tourism booth and administrative offices in the historic old fire hall from Tuesday to Saturday on a year round basis in order to help tourists locate accommodation and destination sources for their local excursions. The number of visitors serviced by this facility for the summer of 2001 was 1,300 persons. This helps employ a student in the area who is planning to go on to a career in the hospitality industry through a partially funded provincial student help program either through SOTO or the local Owen Sound Branch of the YM/WCA. This program also offers a certificate credit by having the student attend a three day seminar called the Super Host Training Course. The Chamber contributes the cost of this course plus half the student wages and benefits.

The Chamber firmly believes that tourism as an industry in the greater Markdale area, including the Beaver Valley, will become the largest employer, if promoted in a manner conducive to economic growth.

Further, the Chamber has been instrumental in promoting the concept of a local Economical Development Committee by Municipality of Grey Highlands and has for the last three years had its president as Chair of that committee. This committee is made up of members of the local chambers of commerce, local businesses, farm groups, two members of council and other private citizens who may have a rich back ground in economic commerce and have expressed a desire to contribute to the aims and objectives of the committee and who may be elected or appointed from time to time. This committee, in collaboration with the Chamber, has created a very creative business directory for all of the Grey Highlands area of which Markdale is the financial hub. The Chamber also hosts a very creative website that has drawn many accolades in the community at www.village.markdale.on.ca. Recently, the chamber has also developed an exclusive distributorship with Soft Dimensions, of a membership, volunteer, training, and course management system that includes a Health and Safety Course and the compulsory Work Place Safety Course, Human Resources systems as well as other small business help training courses.

The chamber also participates in the “Stars in Business Awards” which is an annual gala event recognizing the achievements of six different levels of business excellence in the Saugeen Economic Business Area which includes Markdale. Markdale businesses were successful in capturing the majority of awards in 2005 largely through the efforts of the Markdale Chamber’s nominations.

To this end the Markdale Chamber believes it can best use the resources of the F.T. Hill Estate donation to fulfil the express objectives of the will to promote economic development in the Markdale area and thus alleviate the rest of the taxpayers of the larger, newly formed Municipality of Grey Highlands from contributing to the economic development of the more restrictive Markdale area.

Objectives

Objectives/goals of the Chamber would be to provide resources, both financial and personnel, to develop and implement Economic Development strategies in the Markdale area.

To promote the development of a small business resource centre, located in Markdale and structured along the lines of the Brampton store front Small Business Enterprise Centre, which recently received recognition as the best cross Canada concept for the promotion and incubation of the development of small business through the use of private partnering in the business community as well as effectively taking advantage of provincial and federal programs for the development of such businesses.

The Markdale Chamber would promote such an initiative with the alternative concept of initiating and introducing into the mix, rural economical development initiatives that include tourism, farming groups and a women’s home self-employment group as partners.

Markdale is the main employment and service node in the Municipality of Grey Highlands and should position itself to be the centre for further industrial and residential expansion that is required to provide a work force base and commercial base for the greater area.

Initiate infrastructure improvements that enhances the market readiness of industrial and residential lands by assisting the approval process, signage, marketing and servicing priorities.

To implement a Business Expansion and Retention program within the municipality that would have as one of its goals the inclusion of Markdale as the main business centre.

There is urgent need for both retention of existing business and amenities as well as attraction of new growth.

The Markdale Chamber of Commerce represents a small rural municipality and does not have the personnel, expertise or financial resources to run such a comprehensive program but would collaborate with the local municipality and other development minded groups in supporting a proposal that would include an full time, Municipal Economic Development Officer to help develop a Business Improvement Area for that area of Markdale as identified in the Estate, to help finance, along with the Chamber, an annual tax based downtown financial improvement reserve as created in many larger communities.

The Economic Development Officer would also work closely with other parties in the community, including existing businesses. the public, and community groups as well as neighbouring communities (Blue Mountain, Kimberley & Meaford), to consider shared promotion of area attractions and events such as a shared attendance at a trade shows or tourism advertising.

BENEFITS

Improved marketing that attracts and retains business for the benefit of the community:

- • more local employment
- • more assurances of local opportunities for business graduates
- • promote career opportunity days for local schools
- • help retain local hospital and support staff with a vibrant downtown
- • maintain local commercial viability
- • create a interesting tourism shopping hub in support of local natural attractions

IMPLEMENTATION

The Markdale Chamber of Commerce would, should it be successful, create through the Estate lawyers', a Trust Fund or an F.T. Hill Economic Development Foundation to which additional donations or bequeaths could be forwarded with the proceeds to be used under the guidance of a legal agreement on specifically how and where funds could be used with specific annual spending limits. Such an agreement would specify that only the interest or capital growth of such a fund could be used for the purpose of tourism and economic development in the Markdale area as set out in the terms of the estate. Such a fund could not be used to augment or run the everyday business of the Chamber and could not be used to reduce or in any way subsidise the membership fees of the Chamber. The terms of such a legal agreement could not be altered unless approved by a sixty percent voting majority of the general membership of the Markdale Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber would make its best efforts to designate the Old Fire Hall at 19 Toronto St. N., in Markdale as a historic site to be used exclusively for the Chamber's permanent offices and for the advancement of tourism, economic development and an arts and culture centre to promote art, theatre, concerts and other cultural activities as well as business seminars for the community at large. Such an accomplishment would also result in the Chamber and the Municipality designating the resulting building as the F.T. Hill Tourism and Economic Development Centre and endeavour to adorn the buildings interior with pictures and photographs of F.T. Hill accomplishments and memorabilia.

While many of these of these goals and objectives appear to be municipally related, the Markdale Chamber of Commerce feels it can best fulfil the terms, condition and spirit of the estate wishes by administering the funds to best interests of the needs and objectives of the Markdale area specifically, without being dissuaded by the political pressures of appeasing the larger incorporated municipality.

The Chamber would also continue to advance the ongoing development of a new Markdale hospital as announced in May 2006 by the Provincial Minister of Health, the Honourable George Smitherman, through business and personal donations of its' membership and through the Chamber's own hospital related 5 year commitment.

F.T. HILL ESTATE
MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
JUDGES SUBMISSION

June 19, 2009

Since the Markdale Chamber of Commerce's original submission toward obtaining the FT Hill bequest for the Village of Markdale, the Chamber has progressed in some of its projects and would like to update the court on its progress to date.

TRILLIUM GRANT SUCCESSES:

As noted in our 2006 submission, the Chamber had obtained a Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, in collaboration with the Markdale Ice Cream festival. That grant was completed in 2006. It saw the Chamber complete the development of the Burnside Memorial Parkette in the village's downtown, as well as successfully increase attendance numbers at the Ice Cream Festival. This grant was completed and final reports were filed to the satisfaction of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

A second successful Trillium Foundation grant was achieved in 2007. This one-year grant supported the Chamber's ongoing support of local volunteer organizations. During the grant period, the Chamber held four volunteer and entrepreneurial skills training sessions, enhanced two local events (Flesherton Spring Fling and Eugenia Gold Rush Days) increased the volunteer resources available at the Olde Firehall in downtown Markdale and developed a sustainability strategy for the Chamber offices.

HRSDC/OMTCU EMPLOYMENT:

During the term of the first Trillium grant noted above, the Chamber successfully applied for and completed a Job Creation Project (JCP) under Human Resources & Skills Development Canada. This project saw the Chamber review the status of volunteerism in Grey Highlands and create an online volunteer directory for the community. This program shifted from federal to provincial jurisdiction during the term of the project, with the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities overseeing the completion of the project. This job creation project was completed to the satisfaction of the ministry.

CANADA SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM:

Since the Chamber's 2006 submission, we have been successful every summer in obtaining a summer student to staff the visitor and community information booth at the Olde Firehall in downtown Markdale. In 2007 we had two students (one was for the Ice Cream Festival and one was a Chamber summer student). In 2008 and now in 2009 we were successful in obtaining a student in cooperation with the Markdale Agricultural Society – for whom the student works on a shared time basis. These collaborative students were and are overseen by the Chamber manager and payroll is maintained by the Chamber treasurer. Summer students are trained in Customer Service Excellence through OTEC training.

EVENT COORDINATION:

As an economic and social boost for the community, the Chamber organizes annual events, including an annual Classic Cruise Night on the first Friday of July, to draw residents and visitors to our downtown core. This event is sponsored by the Chamber and local business. It has drawn as many as 150 classic cars to our downtown on a single evening.

We also organize a Santa Claus parade in November. As part of the parade weekend, downtown retailers hold a Moonlight Madness shopping evening. The Chamber hosts the local volunteer firefighters at the Olde Firehall to raise funds and awareness for fire safety. We also arrange for horse-drawn village tours and coordinate advertising of the weekend with other groups who host a Breakfast with Santa on the morning of the parade. In the past couple of years, the parade has been sponsored and has "broken even" due to the increased participation of local businesses and individuals.

The Chamber has also taken the lead with a local Grey Highlands Event Network, wherein area event organizers meet casually to share information and resources. To this end, the Chamber created an annual events brochure in 2008 to promote area events. This led to increased awareness of these volunteer driven events.

DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT:

Under the above-mentioned Trillium grant, the Chamber was successful in developing the Burnside Memorial Parkette in a burnt-out lot in the village's downtown. Through fundraising and arranging matching dollars from the municipality, this parkette now offers a space for people to stop and relax during shopping excursions. The parkette also provides access from off-street parking to the downtown area and is used as the set-up location for entertainment during the Chamber's Classic Cruise Night.

Over the years the Chamber has also spearheaded the installation of Victorian lighting in the village's downtown. The Chamber annually arranges for Canada flags to be installed on these lamp posts for the summer and Christmas decorations during the holiday season.

The Chamber also works closely with the Markdale and District Horticultural Society to beautify the village through the installation and maintenance of flower beds at the gateway signs to the village, flower barrels and hanging baskets throughout the downtown area. Early in 2009, the Chamber purchased a custom watering tanker and a lawn tractor to maintain these floral enhancements to our village and downtown retail area.

TOURISM:

The Chamber maintains a tourism information booth (which also includes community and volunteer resources) in the Olde Firehall in Markdale. The traffic to this information centre has steadily increased over the past three years, with more and more regional visitors relying on the information, maps and brochures available at this highway access location. **Please see visitor stats** attached for details on this increase.

The Chamber manager sits as a member at large on the Grey County Tourism Committee. As such, the Chamber is able to represent the greater Grey Highlands area in county tourism discussions and decisions. The Chamber annually attends the Regional Tourism Marketing Partnership (RTMP) brochure swap to stay informed on regional tourism attractions and destinations. Chamber manager and summer staff also attend the annual Grey County Familiarization tour, wherein participants travel by bus around the county to familiarize themselves with area tourism features – to better serve the travelling public.

MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS:

The Chamber has, in the past, been very active with the Municipality of Grey Highlands Economic Development & Tourism Committee, with our past president sat in the Chairman position for that committee for two terms. During this time a Grey Highlands Web Site was inaugurated, a business directory was developed, updated and maintained.

Since the current term was begun the Municipality has taken over the Administration of the Tourism and Economic Development Committee, with the previous committee being designated as an Ad-hoc Committee with no voting privileges. The budget of the committee was reduced from \$18,000 to \$12,000/annum. A council member started chairing the ad-hoc committee, agendas ceased to be sent out and the ad-hoc committee soon fell apart and citizens ceased to attend. The business directory was cancelled by council committee and it was suggested that the individual chambers produce their own business directory, which was the case before amalgamation.

The Chamber has occupied the Olde Firehall in downtown Markdale since 1995, when it was vacated by the fire department (which moved to a new building). The lease had expired and was running year-to-year, so was renegotiated and completed for a five-year term in early 2008. This lease arrangement with the municipality gives the Chamber full access to the entire building (original building plus additional halls) as well as staff parking to the rear of the building. The lease clearly states the Chamber has the intention of renovating and

redeveloping the building.

THE OLDE FIREHALL REDEVELOPMENT:

The Chamber sees the building as becoming an accessible economic development showcase in addition to its existing tourism and community information centre. The additional halls (truck bays) have the potential to be further developed into a multi-use facility, which could house a theatre/business presentation centre; an arts and culture area as well as the FT Hill Economic Development Foundation – wherein FT Hill memorabilia could be displayed (as noted in our original submission in 2006).

Further to this vision for the future of the Olde Firehall, the Chamber has contracted a local architect to develop a floor plan of the building (see attached) for use as a concept drawing to outline future goals for the building. The Chamber also hired a local artist to paint an image of the Olde Firehall to be used in awareness and fundraising campaigns. The Chamber maintains the Olde Firehall and recently had the mural on the side of the building touched up so as to have a fresh mural to demonstrate the continued vitality of the village.

Council has indicated they would like to restore only the original small fire hall structure and tear down the newer (1946) wing, while the Chamber and many citizen groups want to preserve and restore all of the Olde Firehall for the group activities that are indicated on the original submission. See attached restoration rendering and pictures. The large, 2600 sq. ft. vacant wing is currently in an advanced state of disrepair and needs immediately a new flat membrane roof, upgraded electrical system, drainage and plumbing repairs and an engineering and architectural reports.

This spring (2009) the Chamber also applied for federal Community Adjustment Funds to renovate the Olde Firehall original building into an economic development showcase, a small business incubator and to access the feasibility of further developing the later halls attached to the building as a multi-use facility through engineering and architectural reports. The application was supported by the municipality of Grey Highlands and the regional Saugeen Economic Development Corporation (a Federal Community Futures Corporation). The application has been received and at this writing no determination has been made on the funding.

LOCAL HEALTH CARE INITIATIVES:

The Centre Grey Hospital in Markdale is aging, so the community fundraised under the auspices of the Centre Grey Health Services Foundation to raise over \$12M towards the building of a new hospital in the village. The Chamber pledged \$15,000 to this effort and has gathered this pledge through a variety of fundraising efforts. Due to economic times, the hospital project is on hold indefinitely awaiting provincial approvals (though the province did fund the planning stage and it is anticipated further development will be forthcoming).

To further support are health care, the Chamber manager, in the past, sat on the Centre Grey Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee, which seeks to bring and maintain doctors in the Centre Grey catchment area. This committee meets monthly to review strategies to bring doctors to the area. It was determined early in this committees renewed process that a space was required for medical practitioners, as the municipally-run medical clinic does not have the space for more than 1.5 more practitioners. To this end, the Chamber suggested a public-private partnership to obtain a space in the village for a primary care facility. The manager no longer sits on this committee due to time constraints.

In consultation with the Centre Grey Health Services Foundation the past president of the Chamber recruited area developers to work on the potential for this type of facility – as a public-private consortium. Several options were reviewed and one was determined as feasible. This project was presented to the foundation, which decided to seek non public-private partnership alternative options through public fundraising.

REGIONAL NETWORKING:

As part of the Chamber's economic development strategy, the Chamber manager coordinates a Grey Bruce Multi-Chamber Network, which meets casually twice a year to share resources and information of interest to

our membership and the area business community at large.

The Chamber is also working with the neighbouring Flesherton & District Chamber of Commerce to develop a comprehensive area business directory to be posted online. This collaboration has been in development for some time as the Chamber's wish to work together toward the betterment of the entire area.

The Chamber has also attended regional economic development conferences and keeps in close contact with the Saugeen Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) on area strategies.

The Chamber along with other chambers in the southern SEDC area supports with money and volunteers the "Stars In Business Awards" annual Gala event from which many Markdale businesses have received awards of excellence including: Chapmans Ice Cream, Ice River Springs; Aero Industries; Markdale Foodland; Sidekicks Restaurant; IDI Markdale Inc., operating under the names of Peek Thru My Window, Fancy That and County Line. While the municipal politicians sometimes attend the gala event and sponsor a table, that is the limit of their participation.

MARKDALE CHAMBER CONCERNS:

The Markdale Chamber of Commerce feels it best represents the wishes of the FT Hill estate as it is the local organization most concerned with the economic development and growth of the village of Markdale. Since amalgamation, the village has not been adequately represented on council, as there has been no elected municipal representative from Markdale on council for the last three years.

Funds collected for the Burnside Memorial Parkette, and meant to be matched by the municipality were not clearly tracked by the municipality and when questioned, the municipality indicated funds for the Parkette had been rolled back into the general ledger and not kept on hand for Parkette maintenance. Further, funds from the sale of the village's electric utility to Hydro One have been scarce, despite the original intent of those funds to go exclusively to the village of Markdale.

The funding concerns lead the Markdale Chamber to doubt the eventual proper allocation of the FT Hill bequest, should it be determined to go to the municipality instead of the Chamber of Commerce.

Consultations within the community have evidenced that the community feels very strongly the best interests off the previously independently incorporated village of Markdale are not being addressed by council. To that end a delegation of independent citizens and the Chamber, is being gathered and plans to address council at an upcoming meeting. It may be difficult to get a candidate to run for a position on council, so the Chamber believes that at least if there is a formal group of concerned citizens making submissions to council it would be better than the status quo.

There have been discussions in the past that one of the ways the Chamber can boost this groups profile would be to form a Business Improvement Area which by legislation must have one member of Council on its board.

The Chamber is aware of at least three proposed subdivisions, rezoned for that purpose, which have not received a draft plan of subdivision, to date since amalgamation in 2001. The Chamber would like to play a role in supporting and promoting further industrial and residential development in the community.

CONCLUSION:

As can be seen from the original 2006 submission the Chamber does not want to spend all of the money on one project, namely the Old Fire Hall Restoration, but rather would prefer to start a bequest foundation in the name of the FT Hill (as outlined in our original submission) to better reflect the aspirations of one of the village's most illustrious pioneers and to giving a lasting ongoing achievements to his will request.

Respectfully submitted - Wayne R. Fitzgerald, Director - On behalf of the Chamber President and Board

McKERROLL & McKERROLL

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

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JOHN A. McKERROLL, LL.B.
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FAX 519-371-1256

RECEIVED DEC 03 2009

November 27, 2009

The Public Guardian and Trustee
Ministry of the Attorney General
Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee
595 Bay Street, Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M6

Attention: Dana De Sante, Esq.

COPY

Michael J. McGarry, Esq.
Barrister & Solicitor
163 Lambton Street East
Durham, Ontario NOG 1R0

✓ Dunlop Johnson & Pust
Barristers & Solicitors
21 Main Street East
Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0

Attention: Daniel R. Pust, Esq.

Ms. Catherine P. Watson
Barrister & Solicitor
83 Toronto Street North
Markdale, Ontario NOC 1H0

Dear Sirs and Madam:

**Re: Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill
and the Public Guardian and Trustee
Ontario Superior Court of Justice Court file No. 08-345**

We enclose for your records a copy of the Judgment granted November 27th, 2009 by The Honourable Justice C. W. Hourigan in this matter.

Yours very truly,

McKERROLL & McKERROLL

Per:


M. K. McKerroll

MKM/ds
Encl.

Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill
Applicant

-and- The Public Guardian and Trustee et al
Respondent

ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE
PROCEEDING COMMENCED AT Owen Sound

JUDGMENT

M. K. MCKERROLL, LSUC #22346E
MCKERROLL & MCKERROLL
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854 - 1st Avenue West
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N4K 5R4

Telephone: (519) 376-2050
Facsimile: (519) 371-1256
Solicitors for the Applicant

ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

THE HONOURABLE) Friday the 27th day of
MR. JUSTICE *HOURIGAN*)
) November, 2009

BETWEEN:

EBER J.R. WILLIS, SUCCEEDING TRUSTEE OF THE
ESTATE OF FRANKLIN THOMAS HILL

Applicant

and

THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN AND TRUSTEE,
THE MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS AND
FRANK CHARLES MACAULAY

Respondents

JUDGMENT

THIS APPLICATION was heard on Friday, November 27th, 2009 without a jury at the Court House, at 611 9th Avenue East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 6Z4, in the presence of counsel for the Applicant and as agent for the counsels for the Respondents,

ON READING the Notice of Application, the evidence filed by the Applicant, the Notices of Appearances filed and Consent of the parties filed and on hearing submissions of counsel on behalf of the Applicant,

1. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Applicant, EBER J.R. WILLIS is confirmed as the Succeeding Estate Trustee With A Will in the Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill.

2. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the style of cause herein be amended to add as Respondents in this proceeding the additional parties appearing namely, the Markdale Chamber of Commerce, the Municipality of Grey Highlands and Frank Charles Macaulay, the residuary beneficiary of the Estate of Thomas Franklin Hill and the heir at law of the deceased, Franklin Thomas Hill.

3. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the balance of the one - half residuary share inclusive of accumulated interest and capital, specified in Clause 4 of the Last Will and Testament of Franklin Thomas Hill, deceased, shall be distributed as follows by the Succeeding Estate Trustee With A Will of the Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill, deceased, Eber J.R. Willis, after payment of the amounts stipulated in paragraphs 6 and 8 hereafter and the said Estate Trustee's compensation:
 - (i) 80% to the Markdale Chamber of Commerce, in trust which shall apply the funds as provided in paragraph 4 below;
 - (ii) 20% to the Municipality of Grey Highlands, in trust, which shall apply the funds as provided in paragraph 5 below.

4. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that in relation to the subject 80% share, the Markdale Chamber of Commerce shall establish a segregated charitable trust to be known as the "Franklin Thomas Hill Memorial Charitable Trust for the Advancement of Industry", from which the income and capital shall be used in the discretion of the Markdale Chamber of Commerce exclusively for the public benefit to promote industry and commerce within the geographic boundaries of the Village of Markdale or within 3.2 kilometers (two miles) thereof.

5. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that in relation to the subject 20% share, the Municipality of Grey Highlands shall establish a segregated charitable trust, to be known as the "Franklin Thomas Hill Health Care Memorial Trust", from which the income and capital shall be used in the discretion of the Municipality of Grey Highlands exclusively for the benefit of the Community Health Clinic in Markdale, Ontario.

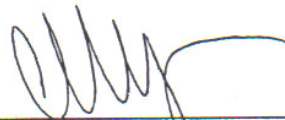
6. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the sum of \$10,000.00 shall be paid by the Succeeding Estate Trustee With A Will from the Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill to the Respondent, Frank Charles Macaulay in full and final settlement of all the interest of Frank Charles Macaulay as the residuary beneficiary of the Estate of Thomas Franklin Hill and the heir at law of Franklin Thomas Hill, deceased.

7. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Succeeding Estate Trustee With A Will, Eber J.R. Willis shall provide an accounting for the period November 1, 1999 to October 31, 2009 to The Public Guardian and Trustee, the Markdale Chamber of

Commerce and the Municipality of Grey Highlands, and a statement of Estate Trustee's calculation of compensation.

8. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the costs of this Application shall be fixed inclusive of fees, disbursements and GST and shall be paid by the Succeeding Estate Trustee With A Will from the Estate of Franklin Thomas Hill as follows:

- (i) To the Respondent, The Public Guardian and Trustee
the sum of \$2,500.00;
- (ii) To Michael J. McGarry, solicitor for the Respondent,
Frank Charles Macaulay the sum of \$3,000.00;
- (iii) To Dunlop, Johnson & Pust, solicitors for the Respondent,
the Markdale Chamber of Commerce the sum of \$5,000.00;
- (iv) To Catherine P. Watson, solicitor for the Respondent,
the Municipality of Grey Highlands the sum of \$5,000.00, and
- (v) To McKerroll & McKerroll, solicitors for the Applicant,
the sum of \$7,957.50.



Entered at Owen Sound

Date: Nov 27/09

Per: ck No: 706