



Minutes

Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee

May 6, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Peter Tovell
Vice Chair Lynda Montgomery
Deputy Mayor Scott Greig
Member Tiffany James
Councillor Marion Koepke
Member Katharine Lochnan
Member Kelsey Starr

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Aidan Ware, Director and Chief Curator - Art Gallery, Culture,
Tourism
Christina McLean, Committee and Executive Support
Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tovell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on
February 4, 2026

"THAT the minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on February 4, 2026 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no deputations or presentations.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comments from the public.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

- 8.a Report AG-26-002 from the Director and Chief Curator Re: May 2026 Update Report

The Director and Chief Curator provided an overview of the report.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware clarified that the OPEN card is a collaboration between the TOM, the Owen Sound and North Grey Union Public Library, the Billy Bishop Museum, and the Marine and Rail Waterfront Museum; which grants free admission to all of the institutions and is available to anyone who is eligible for a library card.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that "meaningful interactions" as referenced in the report refers to the instances where a discussion or engagement takes place with the individuals who enter the facility.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that the Emergence exhibition was not juried and focused on an inclusive approach to engage as many students in the process as possible.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that there is not an artist's talk respecting the Forecast exhibition planned at this time.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that the Operations Coordinator works with a group of volunteers to select the films for the Gallery Night at the Movies events, and that the possibility of a working group could be considered in the new year.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that a series of public talks could be planned for 2027 to honour Tom Thomson's 150th birthday as well as the gallery's 60th year. She added that other possible items that could be

planned for the celebrations include featuring the recent acquisitions of Tom Thomson works or highlighting the impact of other individuals on Tom Thomson's life and legacy.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that there isn't a specific date planned for celebrating the milestone year, and that instead a year-long celebration is the focus.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that the extra revenue from the sales desk and gift shop relates to the increased selection of inventory that was brought in within the last year. She added that having Tourism services located at the TOM could have also influenced the amount of merchandise sold.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that the line respecting collection donations reflects donations that were for specific items, such as restoration, appraisals or collections care, while the regular donations line reflects general donations to the gallery. She added that the option to make online donations is planned to be implemented in the future.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that the Tip Tap Pay station is going to be wrapped and relocated to increase convenience and visibility.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that the first three months of the year tend to be slower for visitor numbers, and that none of the figures in the year-to-date budget lines as presented are unusual for this time of year.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ware noted that net revenue could be included in future reports.

AG-260506-002

Moved by Vice Chair Montgomery

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report AG-26-002 respecting the May 2026 Art Gallery Update Report, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

9. REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS

9.a Update Report from the Fundraising Team

Member Starr provided an overview of the fundraising team update, highlighting the wrap up of the 2026 calendar campaign and recognizing the work of the previous Fundraising Team Chair Mary Anne Alton.

9.b Update Report from the Art Collection Team

There was no update from the Art Collection Team.

10. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

11. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

12. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

There were no correspondence items presented for information.

13. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Tovell adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.