



Minutes

Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee

September 2, 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

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: 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 May 6, 2026

"THAT the minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on May 6, 2026 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no depositions 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 CS-26-003 from the Director and Chief Curator Re: September Art Gallery Update Report

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

In response to questions from Committee, the Chief Curator noted that:

- The movies shown at the Gallery Night at the Movies program are currently selected through a staff-led process while considering formal and informal feedback from attendees and volunteers, and that there are additional factors taken into consideration when selecting the films, such as licensing rights and scheduling.
- The possibility of implementing an avenue for online donations to the Art Gallery is being investigated.
- The Queen's Park Bandstand gazebo was not used this year for Camp TOM as it was often occupied by members of the public, so the instructors were creative on where the kids were taken for breaks and outdoor activities and would often walk to nearby park spaces like Harrison Park.
- The possibility of increasing camp staff is something that would have to be included in the 2027 operating budget, as while a portion of the instructor wages are covered by grants through Canada Summer Jobs, there is still a portion paid by the City.

- Expanding the camp to allow an increased numbers of campers is something that could be looked at for future years, especially due to the high interest in recent years, however staffing numbers is the main constraint.
- The Gallery Night at the Movies program has both season passes and the option to get individual tickets, which go on sale three weeks before the showing.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that staff will investigate the possibility of banners being installed to celebrate many of the exciting anniversaries happening in 2027, such as the 150th anniversary of Tom Thomson's birth, the 60th anniversary of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, and the 170th anniversary of Owen Sound.

AG-260902-002

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report AG-26-003 respecting the September Update Report, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

- 8.b Report AG-26-004 from the Director and Chief Curator Re: Transition of Tom Thomson Art Gallery Teams to Working Groups

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

In response to questions from Committee, the Committee and Executive Support Coordinator noted that:

- The range provided for the number of members on each working group allows for flexibility based on how many interested and experienced people apply to the working group roster.
- Working groups are not subject to the City's Procedural By-law and therefore do not have to meet quorum requirements.
- Applications to the working group roster will be open online beginning October 19, and will ask for individuals' interests, experience, and expertise. Applications will be kept on file for the term of Council, and the roster will be referenced throughout the term as working groups are created.

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report AG-26-004 respecting the transition of Tom Thomson Art Gallery teams to working groups, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Direct staff to include in the 2027 Board and Committee By-law the inclusion of a Tom Thomson Art Gallery Fundraising Working Group as outlined in the report; and**
- 2. Direct staff to include in the 2027 Board and Committee By-law the inclusion of a Tom Thomson Art Gallery Art Collection Working Group as outlined in the report."**

Carried.

9. REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS

9.a Verbal Report from the Fundraising Team

Chair Tovell provided an overview of the fundraising team update in Member Starr's absence and highlighted the launch of the 2027 fundraising calendar campaign, which focuses on celebrating 150 years since the birth of Tom Thomson.

9.b Verbal 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

12.a Correspondence from the Committee and Executive Support Coordinator Re: Committee Vacancies and Applications

The Committee and Executive Support Coordinator provided an overview of the correspondence, highlighting that committee applications will be open from October 19 to November 20, and that the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee will have two openings for terms running January 2027 to December 2028.

Deputy Mayor Greig thanked the outgoing committee members for their contributions and time spent on the committee over the course of their terms.

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the September 2, 2026 Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee agenda, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive Item 12.a for information purposes."

Carried.

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 2:54 p.m.