

**111th Report of the**  
**ELDON HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting held via remote electronic format, Thursday, November 18, 2021, commencing at 4:35 p.m.

Present: M. Donachie (Chair), M. Spencer Golovchenko, T. Regnier, R. Griesmayer, L. Henderson, J. O'Neil, M. Halliday, M. Majumdar, T. Wittmann, B. Ardiel, R. Armistead

Regrets: R. Koudys

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**HENDERSON AND MAJUMDAR**

That the Agenda **BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

**2. Chair's Remarks**

None

**3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**4. Approval of 110<sup>th</sup> Report of the Eldon House Board of Directors (attached)**

**SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND GRIESMAYER**

That the 110<sup>th</sup> Report of the Eldon House Board **BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

**5. B. Keim – Quarterly Financial Report Update (attached)**

Despite an unusual year of Covid-19, the 2021 Eldon House financial status is good, as the current net income is approximately \$10,000 and may go a little higher before year-end. These numbers do not include funds in our PayPal account, so will increase the positive financial position. This is a good opportunity to make some needed purchases. Yet, it is still prudent to maintain a small surplus, as it provides a buffer in case of impact by the 2022 budget from the City of London.

## 6. T. Wittmann - **Overview of Staff and Financial Reports** (attached)

Additional information provided as follows:

- After a positive Covid result for a City staff member at Eldon House; four on site staff who had contact with this individual were tested and had a negative result. The museum was closed only for one day. B. Keim informed the board that Stay Safe London (staysafelondon.ca) through London Chamber of Commerce provides free rapid Covid tests to local businesses.
- Interviews have been completed for the two historical interpreter positions with training likely to start early next week to be ready for December.
- There were a number of no shows or cancellations for The Morbid and the Macabre October program. B. Ardiel explained there is a no refund policy during Covid, but one can transfer to another person or event.
- The Program Coordinator also provided details on how virtual tours at Eldon House are done with the laptop to move through the house and the webcam setup in various rooms. The teacher and students can view via a projector or smartboard or at home on their computers/laptops.
- The Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Workshop over two evenings in January is available to the whole board but is not mandatory. M. Donachie and M. Spencer Golovchenko expressed interest in attending. If anyone else wishes to participate, please send an email to the Curator Director.

### **SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND MAJUMDAR**

That the Staff and Financial Reports as distributed **BE RECEIVED**.

**CARRIED**

## 7. **Committee reports**

### Strategy and Innovation Committee (M. Majumdar)

A few initiatives focused on Amelia Harris are being worked on, including an interpretive panel to be installed on an accessible easel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor and a creative competition to create images that will tie into celebrations of Amelia's birthday. The conservator also has the Amelia Harris bust repair on a wait list, so likely to be worked on toward the end of 2022.

A Promenade Working Group is being formed as a sub-committee of the Strategy and Innovation Committee that will include members of the board, individuals from local heritage group members and others, as needed. The next step will be the Curator Director reaching out to Museum London. The next meeting of the Committee will be in early December.

### **GRIESMAYER AND HALLIDAY**

That the verbal report **BE RECEIVED** from the Strategy and Innovation Committee.

**CARRIED**

## 8. M. Donachie – **Meeting Schedule**

A review of potential options for a change to the monthly board meeting schedule was completed. The current contender is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, but the Chair will first clarify any impact to possible attendance by City staff, the Culture Manager or the Eldon House Finance Manager. Any change to the schedule will come into effect in early 2022.

#### **9. M. Donachie – Holiday Gathering Plans**

The December 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting is being held in person at the Interpretive Centre. This return to the museum will include a tour of Eldon House with all its festive decoration, plus some treats to be hosted after the meeting. An invitation will be distributed to the board and staff members to keep the group small, as we continue to emerge from the pandemic.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **10. UNESCO City of Music**

The Board Chair offered congratulations on behalf of the Eldon House board to the City of London's Culture Manager, Robin Armistead, for the City of London being named a UNESCO City of Music, the first in Canada. This is quite a recognition as London is only the 4<sup>th</sup> city in Canada named as part of its Creative Cities Network (in different categories).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **HALLIDAY**

Motion to adjourn.

#### **CARRIED**

Adjourned at 5:53 PM.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Board meeting (in-person), December 16, 2021 (holiday gathering follows)