



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation  
Advisory Committee (PACAC)**

**From:** **Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator**

**Meeting Date:** **February 4, 2016**

**Subject:** **Report PACAC16-009  
Martha Kidd Commemoration**

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## **Purpose**

A report to recommend that the PACAC review the status of the Martha Kidd Commemoration project.

## **Recommendations**

That the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report PACAC16-009, dated February 4, 2016 of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

- a) That the motions approved in Report PACAC12-047 – Funding of Special Projects of November 13, 2012, Report PACAC14-004 – Martha Kidd Commemoration January 15, 2014 and Report PACAC14-034 – Martha Kidd commemoration of October 2, 2014 as attached as Appendix A, be rescinded;
- b) That the existing committed funds of \$10,500 be held pending the approval of a suitable alternate tribute to Martha Kidd; and
- c) That the ad-hoc Martha Kidd Commemoration Sub-committee (MKCSC) continue to explore the possibility of coordinating the assembly and digitization of Martha's research for various community uses.

## Budget and Financial Implications

To date the committee has committed \$10,150 to a commemoration of Martha Kidd's work in the city. There is an additional uncommitted \$3,170 in the 2016 PACAC budget for special projects.

## Background

### Project Summary

Martha Kidd passed away on July 30, 2012 at the age of 94. A founding member of the PACAC, Martha was a tireless advocate for the preservation of heritage buildings in the City for nearly 50 years. At the September 11, 2012 meeting of the PACAC the committee decided that Martha's work should be commemorated.

At its November 13, 2012 meeting, the committee passed a motion to retain Louis Taylor of North George Studio to produce a commemorative walking tour guide of the architectural heritage of Peterborough in honour of Martha Kidd's contribution to heritage preservation in the City. The motion committed \$4,500 from the 2013 Special Projects budget and reserves.

Over time the committee gave further consideration to the project and it evolved into a more comprehensive publication; a series of essays by local authors on the history of the preservation movement in Peterborough. At the January 15, 2014 meeting of the PACAC the committee passed a motion to increase the commitment of funds for this larger project. A further \$3,500 was allocated from the 2014 Special Projects budget and \$700 was reallocated from the 2013 budget surplus from a project that was not completed. An additional \$1,450 was anticipated to come from the sale of PACAC merchandise and publications. These allocations totalled \$10,150.

Subsequent to the January 2014 meeting the HPO had discussions with the graphic designer and the proposed editor of the book to further refine costs. At the October 2, 2014 meeting a revised budget was presented to the committee with a total project cost of \$21,300. Meeting this budget required a pre-commitment of \$2,150 from the 2015 Special Project budget and \$9,000 in unsecured revenue from fundraising, sponsorships, grants and further revenue from sales. The committee approved the revised budget.

On January 20, 2016 the Martha Kidd Commemoration Sub-committee (MKCSC) met to discuss the current progress of the project. Two main items of concern were raised:

The fact that Michael Eamon, the editor for the book, had taken on new responsibilities at Trent and was not as readily available to follow-up on the project;

The current budget is based on quotes which are now 14 months old and whether the benefit to the community was worth the increasing costs.

With this in mind, the committee considered alternative ways to commemorate Martha Kidd's work. Based on this discussion staff is recommending that the PACAC's previous motions supporting the book project be repealed and consideration be given to a revised proposal.

### **Revised Proposal**

Martha Kidd collected a vast array of information on the history of Peterborough in her more than 50 years of researching and writing. Her work included the publication of several books including the very popular and still relevant 1978 book, *Peterborough's Architectural Heritage*, an inventory pre-1893 buildings in the core area of the city. During the MKCSC meeting, the idea was raised of making the commemoration of Martha's work the collation, vetting and digitizing for community accessibility, the data residing in the various collecting institutions in Peterborough. There are substantial holdings for Martha's research at the Trent Valley Archives, the Peterborough Museum and Archives and the Trent Archives. Reviewing and organizing this material would make possible a long awaited reprint of *Peterborough's Architectural Heritage*, which would include research completed but never published on buildings built after 1893, as well as those in the old west end and Ashburnham. It might also support revised walking tours, a Murmur project, independent research by other authors and interpretive material developed by the City. The PACAC's financial commitment would initially be comprised of staffing and development of whatever digital output was deemed appropriate. Subsequent output would be approved on a project by project basis as interest, funding and staff resources permitted.

Submitted by,

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### **Attachments:**

Appendix A –minutes of PACAC meetings of November 13, 2012, January 15, 2014 and October 2, 2014