

Limehouse Kiln Society gets \$150,000 Trillium grant

By Frances Niblock

A \$150,000 Trillium Foundation grant will allow the Limehouse Kiln Society to proceed with its next project – restoring a deteriorating drawkiln.

Last week, Society spokesperson Susan Cox briefed Town Council on the latest initiatives with the historic limestone kilns, and said the biggest stumbling block to date has been the drawkiln.

The drawkiln was built in the 1870s – it is the last one built on the property – and is made from massive limestone blocks. The sides of the drawkiln have collapsed inward in the past five years and the mortar holding the kiln together has disintegrated, making the upper portion weak.

Cox outlined how the Society received funding 10 years ago to study what needed to

Fluorodation...

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Surgeon General also agrees: “Community water fluoridation continues to be the most cost-effective, equitable and safe means to provide protection from tooth decay in a community.” The World Health Organization (WHO) believes that “universal access to fluoride for dental health is a part of the basic human right to life.” And finally, the American Dental Association estimates that every dollar invested in water fluoridation saves 38 dollars in dental costs.

Toronto Public Health reported that dental decay is the most frequent condition suffered by children other than the common cold and is one of the leading causes of absences from school. Children are particularly vulnerable to tooth decay for numerous reasons, which seem rather less important than the reality - children today suffer from tooth decay at an alarming rate. Water fluoridation is a cost-effective preventive strategy that will provide protective measures to Ontarians, especially children, regardless of their economic position.

These are the facts. Anything else is fear mongering.

Please take the time to get to know the facts about this important issue; they will make a tremendous difference to you and to your family. For more information and proof of the benefits of fluoridation, you can visit our website at www.youroralhealth.ca.

Dr. Larry Levin,
President,
Ontario Dental Association

be done to restore the site including the powder magazine, set kilns and the drawkiln. She said Credit Valley Conservation fenced the drawkiln and began to take it down to stabilize it in 2006 and the \$150,000 from the Trillium Foundation is “early Christmas news.”

“What we’re looking at now is to restore and rebuild the kiln and protect it from the elements and looking at some sort of a cap or something on top so rain won’t fall through, to keep it from deteriorating,” Cox said, adding they also plan to use the Trillium money to provide more trail access, do additional landscaping so it’s easier to get to the kiln and provide interpretive signage.

Cox said because the Limehouse Kiln Society does not own the land the kilns sit on – they are in a Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) area – they needed to partner with the Town and CVC to get the grant.

Cox said the CVC has been helpful in getting funding for site clearing and stabilization and developed the terms of reference for kiln restoration.

“When we start to redo the trails in the area, Bruce Trail (Association) will work with Credit Valley and we hope will be donating time and assistance in kind so that it won’t be extra expense at that point,” Cox said, adding the Town deserves the biggest thanks for purchasing the former wrecking yard in Limehouse – which houses at least one kiln. She said the

Town’s efforts helped them get the Trillium Foundation money.

Cox said the next step is a meeting today (Thursday) to begin working with the company that is doing the restoration work and to meet the grant requirements of having a community awareness and fundraising plans in place.

“So our next steps are going to make sure that we’ve got trail signage in place for the powder houses, the bridge and the kiosks by April,” Cox said, adding the work on the kiln will begin in April and must be finished by 2010.

She said their progress would be followed with photo and video documentaries on the Society’s website.

In response to a question from council, Cox said that their first grant came from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture and they’ve had one previous Trillium grant.

Mayor Rick Bonnette thanked Cox and the Limehouse Kiln Society for the work they’ve done to date adding “you’ve taken ownership and have had a plan.”

Restoration of the drawkiln is a much larger project than the successful restoration of a powder magazine on the property last year – a joint venture between the Society and the Town of Halton Hills and CVC. A master plan developed in 2003 called for preservation and restoration of the lime kilns and powder house with an estimated \$3-million budget with approximately \$900,000 earmarked for the drawkiln.

BRANCH No. 197 LEGION NEWS By James Hayes P.R.O.

Santa’s Visit.

Santa and his many helpers hosted the children’s Christmas party at the Branch last Sunday; Petunia the Clown entertained the children and parents with her balloon toys and magic show, whilst waiting for St Nicholas to arrive. Before he left for the North Pole he asked me to tell the parents of children who were unable to attend that he has left a gift for them with the stewards. Please call and make arrangements to pick your Child’s gift up as soon as possible. There will be a cut-off date - please don’t miss it.

As always we, and Santa, are grateful for the fine job done every year by Rhona and Jim Thornhill, John Dunn, and Santa’s helpers who sorted and distributed the gifts. The work of John McNabb, John Wagg and Jim Thornhill in the kitchen all helped to make this special day a success.

The storage unit on the patio is now finished; and our sincere thanks go to

Liam McKee and Derek Rolfe who donated all of their time to that project.

Entertainment.

This coming Saturday will be a busy one, with the Annual Christmas Turkey Roll, 2 - 6 pm in the Games Room, followed by a Christmas Show of seasonal Karaoke with Jesse and Troy.

New Years Eve.
Tickets are available at the bar, \$30 each. I suggest you get yours soon as numbers are limited. There will be a cold buffet, party favours, and bus transport home for in town residents (11pm – 1pm)
Steve Dunn will be providing the music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

*Yours in comradeship,
Jim Hayes,
Branch PRO.*

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