

Mill of Kintail Museum Strategic Plan Update

The following tables provides an update on progress made towards achievement of the goals and objectives set out in the *Mill of Kintail Museum Strategic Plan, 2019*.

Goals	Status
Collection	
Manage the collection in accordance with the R. Tait McKenzie Memorial Museum Policies and Procedures by providing responsible storage, care and decision-making of all artifacts in accordance with the vision.	<p>The collections are managed according to R. T.M. Memorial Museums Policies and the standards of the Ministry of Culture, Sport & Tourism.</p> <p>The Ministry requests documentation and plans each year while applying for annual funding. In 2023, an Accessibility Plan was developed and approved by the Ministry in January of 2024.</p>
Exhibits	
Develop exhibits, as per the R. Tait McKenzie Memorial Museum Policies and Procedures, that support the life and accomplishments of Dr. James Naismith and Dr. R. Tait McKenzie in an inclusive, educational, and professional manner.	<p>Exhibits on all floors rotate at least once per season.</p> <p>Exhibits in the rotating art space change monthly.</p>
Programs	
Programs and tours that provide the best educational and influential experience of the life and accomplishments of Dr. James Naismith and Dr. R. Tait McKenzie (in the realms of physical activity, health, nature).	<p>Tours are provided for all visitors. Accessible digital video is available for those who cannot access the studio. Exhibits are researched and created using our artifacts and archival information.</p> <p>Museum based school programs have not been available for several years due to lack of funding and staff, and the pandemic.</p>
Events	
History and nature appreciation related events that attract visitors to the site while promoting physical activity, nature appreciation and health related values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March Break Family Fun Day • Kintail Country Christmas • Valentine Tea (partnered with NLRM) • Paranormal Events • Walk for Wenjak • CROW Sprinkler Party • Tea on the Lawn

Gate House	
The Gatehouse supports the programs and operations of the museum and site while being developed to provide additional historic and natural education opportunities.	The Gatehouse continues to be a favorite space for Cub/Scouts and Guide groups. The space is fully accessible and accommodates a wide range of activities from Reiki to wedding showers.
Outdoor Features	
Enhance the features surrounding the Museum that educate on the life and accomplishments of Dr. James Naismith and Dr. R. Tait McKenzie and make a connection with the natural environment while enticing visitors in to the museum.	
Corporate Services	
Management that supports and enhances the programs and features of the Mill of Kintail.	In 2023, MVCA secured 5-year funding commitments from its member municipalities.
Facility Maintenance	
Management of facilities that supports and enhances the programs and features of the Mill of Kintail.	Work occurs every spring and fall during opening and closing of the museum; and on an ongoing basis to maintain the integrity of the facility.
Objectives	Status
1. Upgrade all archival storage to efficient, compact and digitized systems so that all archival materials, artifacts and records are housed in accordance with appropriate museum standards.	Digitization continues with the help of dedicated volunteers. Completion of this task is expected within the next several months. All artifacts & archival materials are packaged using museum grade materials and according to museum standards.
2. Integrate Dr. Naismith and Dr. McKenzie's stories throughout the museum and promotional materials that emphasize key messages and influences.	The story of Tait and James' friendship continues to be a permanent exhibit in the lower level. Integration of the two men has started on the main floor and continues to improve each season.
3. Improve movement and traffic patterns within the museum to allow better access and more exhibits and display space.	In 2020, COVID prompted the reconfiguration of "Ethel's Room" in order to allow people to visit the main floor while maintaining Health Unit COVID and MVCA requirements.
4. Develop an updated, curriculum-based museum tour with an audio option for download and listening while visiting the museum.	Due to a lack of funding these have not been developed to date.
5. Continue to strive to meet, where possible, with Canadian Museum Association's Ethics Guidelines.	The Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport requires strict documentation each year along with our funding application on the maintenance and care of our collections. Staff and volunteers strive to meet these standards at all times.
6. Pursue and develop partnerships to provide at a minimum one new special exhibit and	A partnership with NBA Canada has resulted in several donations of items and support. A

several enhanced special events to support the site and increase visitorship.	request has been made for 2024 requesting items they may loan to us for exhibit. Membership in the Lanark County Arts & Heritage Network continues to be a great source for items and information when needed. The North Lanark Historical Society has partnered with the museum on several events and with artifacts and archival information for exhibits etc.
7. Upgrade and interpret historic features surrounding the museum that relate to Dr. Naismith and Dr. McKenzie around the museum i.e. Boy Scout Cabin, Ethel's Spot, Mill Stones, Gatehouse, Historic Gardens, etc.	Dependent upon finances and volunteers.
8. Develop a social marketing campaign and promotional material to increase awareness of the improvements to the museum and Dr. McKenzie and Dr. Naismith.	Integrated into corporate communications social media programming.
9. Seek expert and public input into the developments in the museum and surrounding grounds to continue to augment the experience.	
10. Develop the Gatehouse with historic interpretation and conservation related exhibits to add features and educational opportunities.	An exhibit is being planned using paintings of the Museum donated by artists over many years. This exhibit will be up during the 2024 season and hopefully rotate annually.

The following is a list of **capital works** carried out the museum and related facilities since 2019:

- Refurbishment of retaining wall
- Refinish museum floor
- Refurbishment of lookout
- Painted Scout Cabin and new roof
- New accessible door on Gatehouse
- Replacement of museum roof

The following is a list of projects planned for 2024:

- Painting museum exterior
- Pointing work on museum chimney (differed project from 2023)
- Refurbishment to Gatehouse veranda
- Pointing work on Gatehouse (differed project from 2023)
- Window upgrades for Gatehouse (differed project from 2023)
- Repairs to cloister roof