



Minutes for Meeting March 13, 2022

List of 20 Participants: Lynn McDonald, Rose Dyson, Ron Stagg, Carolyn Edgar, Rick Ryerson, Bruce Weber, Tom Thorne, Anne Venton, Irwin Pressman, Alina Novak, Len Fortune, Elizabeth Trott, Phyllis Creighton, Kate McCrone, Gord McNulty, Whitney Smith, Olivia McLeod, Dorothy Ottaway, Robert Timko.

Chair: Ron Stagg

Recorder: Rose Dyson and Carolyn Edgar

Agenda: Minutes of last Meeting, Reports from: Fundraising, Outreach, and Research Committees, update on any public or virtual events, proposal for of a "History Hoax Award" event, Alumni matters, New Business, Date of Next Meeting.

Minutes of Meeting February 27, 2022: Motion to adopt by Bruce Weber, Seconded by Len Fortune.

Fundraising Committee: Carolyn Edgar: Account for Association has been set up at the CIBC, Yonge and St. Clair Branch. Depositing Details included in letter sent out to all Friends and Acquaintances of Egerton Ryerson with plea for donations. Approximately \$1,000 received thus far. Discussion held on best way to spend money effectively. Suggestion that a full page ad be placed in the Globe and Mail. Comments from some who felt that social media is the preferred approach and that such an ad would be a dated and a marginally effective strategy.

Outreach Committee: Rose Dyson: Rosedale United Church declined offer for Len Fortune, an indigenous member of the association, to speak on truth and reconciliation. Len has, nevertheless, sent a follow-up letter with information to the lead minister briefly outlining his position on the subject.

Anne Venton: Has made an attempt to contact Rev. Cheri DiNova, at the Trinity St Paul's United Church with offer to discuss the E.R. issue and possibly have Len speak.

Lynn MacDonald: Letters have gone out to Premier Doug Ford and the Ryerson Board of Governors objecting to the University name change, Webinars are being planned with Lynn as a speaker. Trial runs to be hosted by Bruce Weber and Rose. Follow up letter sent to Jessica Bell, MPP for University/Rosedale encouraging a re-examination of her position on name change. In addition to plans for webinar the feasibility of proceeding with a "History Hoax Award" event was discussed. General consensus that it's a good idea. Lynn will be in touch with McMillan and ask her to consider being a judge. Point made that E.R.s birthday was March 24th and that something on that date might be planned.

Sue Macauley: led a tour of 6 people around Ryerson University and E.R.s original home location on Dundas St. last Friday.

Elizabeth Trott: All alumni members invited to submit questions regarding the University name change by Friday, March 18th. Questions to be answered by March 31st. Discussion followed on sample questions and the need to avoid duplication.

Olivia Mclead: Olivia has set up twitter and instagram accounts.

Research Committee: Rose Dyson: Two articles decoding slanderous statements vilifying Egerton Ryerson in University Task Force Report, Standing Strong, by Harry Malcomson have been edited and are now posted on the website. Permission to be obtained for posting link on website to two papers on Residential Schools in Ontario by Hope Mclean. Research conducted with Lynn on E.R.s original papers at Toronto Reference Library and Cabbagetown Public Library.



**FRIENDS OF
EGERTON
RYERSON**

Elizabeth Trott: Reported that Hope Mclean's MA thesis will soon be made available online by UT. Link for the website will be given. General reluctance within faculty at Ryerson to take on the factual distortions and postmodernist revisioning of historical aspects of E.R.s life and legacy.

Bruce Weber: Within the next 3 weeks, with Lynn, Carolyn and Len a trip to the Mississauga of the Credit 1st Nation people in Brantford is planned. The purpose is for discussion on their position regarding the E.R. issue. Ron Stagg's understanding is that they are divided on it.

Len Fortune: Working on submission of a comical piece to the Toronto Sun.

Robert Timko: Introduced discussion regarding impact of postmodernism on contemporary interpretations of history including and beyond E.R. One example involves an MA thesis <utoronto.academy.edu/HunterKnight>

Observations followed on how the era of fake news, falsehoods and distortions of the truth are, in part, manifestations of developments and trends surrounding themes of deconstruction and revision of historical contexts within the academy.

Next Meeting: March 26th , 2022, 4 pm.