

CITY OF VAUGHAN
REPORT NO. 1 OF THE
PIERRE BERTON TRIBUTE TASK FORCE

*For consideration by the Committee of the Whole
of the City of Vaughan
on May 3, 2016*

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force met at 9:36 a.m., on March 22, 2016.

Present: Regional Councillor Mario Ferri, Chair
David Rutherford, Vice-Chair
Peter Berton
Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase
Councillor Marilyn Iafrate
Scott Somerville
Berton Woodward

Also Present: Jack Graziosi, Director of Infrastructure Delivery
Paul Compton, Acting Director of Recreation Services
Angela Palermo, Manager, Community Development, Arts and Promotional Services
Gabriel Wong, Manager of Building Construction
Brenda Hicock, Acting City Archivist
Adelina Bellisario, Council / Committee Administrator

The following items were dealt with:

1 **WORKPLAN AND TIMELINES UPDATE**

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force recommended that the following recommendation be forwarded to Council for approval:

- 1) That the exhibit and renovation project be expedited by all City Departments in an effort to ensure that the project be completed by June 2018;
- 2) That the Canada 150 Celebration Task Force consider celebrating a tribute to Pierre Berton;
and
- 3) That a copy of this recommendation is forwarded to the local MP's and MPP's,

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force advises Council:

That the presentation by the Manager of Building Construction and Communication C1, presentation material entitled, "Pierre Berton Project Work Plan", be received

2 **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force advises Council:

That the official name for this project be The Pierre Berton Heritage Centre.

3 **RENOVATIONS UPDATED**

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force recommended that the following recommendation be forwarded to Council for approval:

- 1) That Council direct staff to investigate all funding opportunities to help pay for converting the former Church building as fully accessible public building.

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SCOPE OF EXHIBIT

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force advises Council:

- 1) That the Vision, as previously defined, be confirmed, to read as follows:

The Pierre Berton Discovery Centre will offer visitors an engaging, interactive experience of Canada's national story, driven and inspired by the work of one of Canada's preeminent authors and media pioneers.

From his Kleinburg base, the late Pierre Berton pursued a celebrated career as a bestselling author of more than 50 books, historian, story-teller, journalist, newspaper columnist, interviewer, broadcaster and filmmaker. Berton was an active member of the Kleinburg community for 55 years, as an ardent supporter of local events, an environmentalist and as a champion of Canadian identity.

The Centre will be filled with compelling human stories of our builders, our leaders, our warriors, our newcomers, our founding peoples, our heroes and our villains, plus many of the legendary characters and lesser-known folk who make up Canada's fascinating history.

A permanent exhibit will be dedicated to The Secret World of Og, Berton's beloved children's novel featuring characters inspired by his own children. Young visitors will be able to experience an environment like the underground world of the book.

There will also be a section devoted to the life of Pierre Berton. A vibrant online presence will add to the insights the Centre can provide for all Canadians.

Located in Kleinburg, Ont., the Centre will offer a fascinating experience for adults and school children alike, drawing visitors from all over the Greater Toronto Area and from across the country. It will also have a strong community presence and become a gathering place for the people of the area.

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COMMUNICATION PLAN

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force recommended that the following recommendation be forwarded to Council for approval:

- 1) That a member of the Corporate Communications Department be requested to attend the Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force meetings in order to establish a Communication Plan for this project.

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EXTENSION OF TASK FORCE TERM

The Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force recommended that the following recommendation be forwarded to Council for approval:

- 1) That the Pierre Berton Tribute Task Force be granted an extension to June 2018 to complete and submit its findings report in accordance with its mandate.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regional Councillor Mario Ferri, Chair

Report prepared by Adelina Bellisario, Council / Committee Administrator