

Creemore Village Green Update

These are certainly crazy times; Stuart and I hope and trust that you are staying healthy and safe given our current isolation situation.

We thought that we were overdue to give all of our early donors an update for our wonderful new Creemore Village Green project:

1. **Fundraising:** Although the Covid19 pandemic has temporarily stalled our fundraising, we were fortunate enough to have **very solid commitments that will allow the Foundation to complete the construction of the Village Green this year and provide funds for future maintenance.** We will be restarting the fundraising once it is safe to do so and remain very optimistic about our future endeavours in this regard. We also believe that with the business interruption this spring we really wanted to put some positive energy back into the community and its businesses with this exciting transformational project!
2. **Landscape Design:** Over the last few months we have been working hard on the detailed design for the Village Green with PFS our landscape design firm. After much thought and consideration, we have kept the same basic design but reversed the Ralph Hicks 'Dancing Children' artwork and the new stage area from what was originally proposed last Fall. We will send you the new plans shortly. The reasons for this change was to expose the beautiful brick wall of the Bank Café, provide a more prominent position for the fountain, have the stage provide a finishing edge to the Village Green on the north parking lot side of the site, send most music from concerts and events toward the commercial area rather than the immediate residential areas, face the sunshine and lastly to better shield performers from the winds and rain which tend to come from the northwest. We expect these drawings to be done within a week or so.
3. **Demolition:** This was completed in January by a local contractor. You can now see the wonderful vista and get some sense of what the Village Green will look like once it is completed.
4. **Planning Approval:** We will be submitting our drawings shortly and hope to get Township approval within 30 days; this is vital for us to commence construction in this spring.
5. **Landscape Contractor:** We have hired a local firm called Natural Blends that works out of Collingwood. One of the principals was born in Creemore and continues to have friends and family in town. They are prepared to start work in the spring, likely late April or early May; construction is expected to take 4-5 months to complete.
6. **The Creemore Horticultural Society:** We had all The Hort plants relocated to behind the Creemore Library in the late fall and we expect to have the gardens sprinkled and

partially shaded next month. The Hort will work on a new garden layout and design over the next few months and everything will be planted in the fall.

7. **Other:** We have several other initiatives underway around heritage recognition, signage, temporary hoarding, stage design, furniture and donor recognition items that need a lot of community involvement.

The Creemore Community Foundation is very excited to move this project forward, and happy to be in a position to advance this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our Clearview community at a time of economic malaise.

Please contact me should you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,
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