



Auchmar as a Place of Education | Advancing Interest in Auchmar | Heritage and History as a Foundation for the Future

AGENDA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026 – 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.
THE HAMILTON CLUB – 6 MAIN STREET EAST, HAMILTON

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER | DIANE DENT, PRESIDENT – 2 MIN |
| 2. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM | ROB HAMILTON, RECORDING SECRETARY, - 1 MIN |
| 3. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2025, AGM MINUTES | ROB HAMILTON, RECORDING SECRETARY – 2 MIN |
| 4. RECEIPT OF RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT (INCLUDING FINANCIALS) | GRAHAM CARROLL, TREASURER – 7 MIN |
| 5. RESOLUTION TO NOT REQUIRE AUDIT/REVIEW ENGAGEMENT | CAMERON NOLAN – 2 MIN |
| 6. MEMBERSHIP REPORT | BOB GILL – 2 MIN |
| 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT | DIANE DENT, PRESIDENT – 5 MIN |
| 8. GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT | CAMERON NOLAN – 5 MIN |
| 9. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS | CAMERON NOLAN – 5 MIN |

=====

11. BREAK

=====

- | | |
|---|---|
| 12. COUNCILLOR REMARKS & ADVOCACY FOR RESTORATION | HAMILTON WARD 8 COUNCILLOR
AND LISA ABBOTT – 8 MIN |
| 13. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – “THE DAM BUSTERS” | TED BARRIS, AUTHOR |

Remarks about a true story based on a real RAF World War II mission popularized in 1955's movie *The Dam Busters* about Operation Chastise using Barnes Wallis's "bouncing bomb" (codenamed Upkeep) against the Möhne, Eder, and Sorpe dams in Germany's Ruhr valley. Featured in the movie and the story are Canadian RAF members Flight Lieutenant Harlo "Terry" Taerum, DFC navigator (from Milo, Alberta and played by Brian Nissen) and Pilot Officer George Deering, DFC front gunner (born in Ireland and raised in Toronto, played by Peter Assinder). Wing Commander, 24-year-old Guy Penrose Gibson, led the Lancaster Bomber campaign. Toronto born (1949). Barris lives in Uxbridge. He is a Canadian author, journalist, and broadcaster, best known for popular military histories founded upon interviews with veterans. He studied broadcasting at Ryerson, writes a running weekly column titled "The Barris Beat", originated by his father journalist Alex Barris, worked for decades in radio & television (including CBC contributor & host), and taught journalism at Centennial College. Author of some 20 non-fiction books, including *Dam Busters: Canadian Airmen and the Secret Raid Against Nazi Germany* (2018 and describes the raid's story through Canadians who flew it), *Days of Victory: Canadians Remember 1939-1945* (1995 with his father), *The Great Escape: A Canadian Story* (2013 which won the 2014 Libris Award for non-fiction book of the year), *Fire Canoe: Prairie Steamboat Days Revisited* (1977), *Playing Overtime: A Celebration of Oldtimers' Hockey* (1995), Ted Barris is a Member of the Order of Canada in recognition of his work preserving Canadian military history.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 14. THANK YOU REMARKS | DIANE DENT, PRESIDENT – 3 MIN |
| 15. ADJOURNMENT TO FELLOWSHIP | |

AGM MINUTES

Monday, October 27, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.
Chedoke House – Cardus Offices



FRIENDS OF AUCHMAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Of the Annual Members' Meeting Held
Monday, October 27, 2025 – 6 P.M.
Chedoke House – Cardus Offices

WELCOME AND REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

President Diane Dent called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

The President advised that the business portion of the meeting would be conducted first, followed by the guest speakers.

QUORUM

Cameron Nolan confirmed that quorum for the meeting is 30% of eligible voting members, and that quorum is met. The Chair noted that an effective membership date of September 28, 2025, was set, establishing the members entitled to vote at this meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Moved and seconded the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held September 25, 2024, was received.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Director Graham Carroll presented the financial statements of the Friends of Auchmar for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2025.

Moved and seconded the financial statements be received.

Motion Carried.

Moved and seconded the members of the Friends of Auchmar approve dispensing of the requirement for an audit and/or review engagement of the financial statements for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2027, in accordance with the provisions of the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, S.O. 2010, c. 15, Section 78(2) and the financial statements shall still be prepared in accordance with accepted accounting practices save and except for this waiver of audit or review engagement.

Motion Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Diane Dent presented the Chair's Report for the period September 2024 to October 2025. Highlights included:

- Meetings about Auchmar and other heritage properties of note with City of Hamilton staff Lisa Abbott, Director of Tourism and Culture, about the status of Auchmar restoration plans and with Graham Cubitt regarding restoration and adaptive reuse of Century Manor and its influence on Auchmar restoration were attended by Friends of Auchmar Board members.
- Doors Open Auchmar had the full support of the Board in cooperation with the City of Hamilton and all organizers of the various Doors Open programs. The event held Saturday May 3 and Sunday, May 4, 2025, is FOA's major promotional event in the year, with dozens of citizen volunteers who greeted visitors, acted as guides in the Manor House and helped in many other ways, with the support and guidance of Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko and City staff member Franca Hicks, who was thanked for arriving early and staying late each day. Mayor Andrea Horwath, Councillor John-Paul Danko and MPP Monica Ciriello cut the ribbon on both days.
- Bill King, Hamilton author and heritage tour guide, and the President led a Jane's Walk on both days of Doors Open, offering a personal view of the architecture and social history of the site.

- Priorities of the Board include:
 - o Planning and presentation of the 2026 Doors Open program at Auchmar.
 - o Support a move and/or heritage designation of the Auchmar Gate House by City of Hamilton.
 - o Confirm letter of collaboration between City of Hamilton and Friends of Auchmar.
 - o Continued advocacy for the restoration of Auchmar, Dovecote, Gate House and grounds.
 - o Continued support for a private/public partnership for the restoration and re-development of Auchmar, Dovecote, and lands, and the Gate House as a heritage property of note and valuable city asset.
 - o Improve the funding initiatives of Friends of Auchmar.
 - o Advocate for future public events at Auchmar.

President Diane Dent expressed on her own and on behalf of members gratitude for the many contributions of volunteers, members, and directors. Special note was made of the Board, each of whom was asked and stood to be recognized. Given its prominent role in Friends of Auchmar efforts, Mrs. Dent gave a warm thank you to Debra Mills, whose tremendous support of Doors Open is a remarkable example of service to support heritage objectives in the City.

Moved and seconded the President's Report be received.

Motion Carried.

MEMBERSHIP AND DOORS OPEN REPORT

Debra Mills, former Board member, who has been responsible for Doors Open Auchmar for the past several years, provided the membership report and a brief update on Doors Open 2025, including results from Doors Open and the poster competition.

Moved and seconded the Membership Report and Doors Open Report be received.

Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

Moved and seconded the business meeting be adjourned to presentations.

Lisa Abbott, City of Hamilton Director of Tourism and Culture, introduced Jen Anisef and Sydney Kerr-Wilson who will take responsibility for managing and reporting on the restoration plan for Auchmar. A presentation was made of the most recent steps taken by the City of Hamilton for Auchmar.

On behalf of Graham Cubbitt, Emma Cubbit presented Indwell's restoration plan for Century Manor, and work already accomplished.

Lesia Mokrycke provided a detailed presentation about Monument Trees on the Auchmar Estate. Lesia showed photos of trees across Hamilton and raised awareness concerning the degradation of the urban forest.

Councillor Rob Cooper, newly elected Ward 8 Councillor, was introduced. As a citizen of ward 8 for 22 years, Councillor Cooper told us about his work in Hamilton and his support for the restoration of the Auchmar Estate. He asked questions and chatted with guests at intermission and at the end of the evening.

President Diane Dent thanked the speakers with each presentation. On behalf of the Board and everyone present, a warm thank you was given to Cardus for allowing the Friends of Auchmar to host our meeting at the Chedoke/Balfour/ estate.

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.



Advancing Interest in Auchmar | Auchmar as a Place of Education | Heritage and History as a Foundation for the Future

Risk Management

Report to Friends of Auchmar Members

Annual General Meeting

There are two specific items to report and consider at the Annual Meeting.

Year End Financial Statements

For the period ending April 30, 2026, the FOA By-Law and [Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, S.O. 2010, c. 15](#) ("ACT") require a report to be made to the members Annual General Meeting. The report will be tabled at the meeting.

Dispensing with Audit

The Board of Directors proposes members approve the following motion:

The members of the Friends of Auchmar approve dispensing of the requirement for an audit and/or review engagement of the financial statements for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2027, in accordance with the provisions of the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, S.O. 2010, c. 15, Section 78(2) and the financial statements shall still be prepared in accordance with accepted accounting practices save and except for this waiver of audit or review engagement.

The default requirement of the Act is not for profit organizations conduct an audit, with exceptions to do only a review engagement if financial income is less than \$500k. Persons appointed as 'auditor' must be a Certified Professional Accountant ("CPA"), a member of the [Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario](#).

Audits, and even review engagements, have typical fees of \$5k and up, and often closer to \$10k. Since many not-for-profit organizations have very limited income, and FOA is in this category, the ACT sets out a provision that allows the NPO members to decide to 'dispense' with an audit or review engagement.

The proposed motion, if approved, accomplishes this for FOA for the fiscal year 2026-2027. It is the same manner decided for its previous two fiscal years. It assures that FOA will not be required to exhaust its limited net equity on an audit and assure members the funds are available for the work and advocacy of FOA.



Advancing Interest in Auchmar | Auchmar as a Place of Education | Heritage and History as a Foundation for the Future

Governance and Nominations

Report to Friends of Auchmar Members

Annual General Meeting

Recommended for approval for election as Directors and Officers of Friends of Auchmar, and to take office immediately upon approval:

President	Diane Dent
Treasurer	Graham Carroll
Secretary	Angela Nolan
Director at Large	Bob Gill
Director at Large	Robert Hamilton

Compliant with Friends of Auchmar (“FOA”) By-Law, subsection 3.7.01, the Board of Directors Governance and Nominations Committee was composed of Graham Carroll (as a Director and Chair), Diane Dent as President, and Cameron Nolan as FOA member.

The request for nominations and/or indications of interest to serve was sent to members requesting submissions before the 12th. The five nominated persons, all present directors, indicated willingness to be considered for re-election. The committee met on October 12th. Subsequently, on October 14th, a further submission was received.

The nominated slate is the committee recommendation.