

Steward's Report

Major Highlights – April/May 2015

Bicycle Lane Changes

Changes have been approved by Peterborough City Council regarding the bicycle lanes on George Street North. While we are uncertain when it will take effect, parking will soon no longer be permitted in the bicycle lane at any time (currently parking is only prohibited during peak times). We are uncertain at this time what the overall impact upon us will be – during many peak periods for us (evenings and Sundays), overflow parking is often needed. We are hoping to work with the City to determine an alternative parking plan that will compensate for the loss of the use of the bicycle lanes.

Changes to Neighbouring Property (741 George)

A minor variance request was submitted by the neighbouring property owner at 741 George Street North that would allow for parking on their property to extend to the property line as opposed to the standard 1.5m. I attended the meeting of Committee of Adjustment and supported the minor variance in principle, but requested that a hedge barrier be included as a part of the property site plan to limit the effect of parking on the enjoyment and use of the South lawn (particularly in regard to headlights at night and in the evening).

Our request was accommodated and the minor variance was granted. We have agreed that the hedge barrier may be planted on our property, and we will work with the property owner to determine a suitable plant for the site. I have also agreed that we would consider the possibility of sharing costs on the hedge dependent upon the Board's approval, the cost of the project, and the overall state of our budget; I have made no guarantees and have been clear that it would be subject to discussion at the Board level.

Follow-up Items

Journal of Undergraduate Studies at Trent (JUST)

Work has been received for publication of two proceedings-style issues of JUST. Staff will be working to implement a publishing platform for JUST in the coming weeks. Staff are also researching models of operation for the journal in preparation for a full re-launch in the Fall.

Updates to Room 301

Workstations and computers are now installed in 301, along with a new card-access lock. The next phase of the project will be purchase of some storage furniture, a large scale display and the necessary equipment and cables to integrate the existing computers and visiting laptops. Software must also be acquired. Work will continue over the summer to complete this space for use in the Fall.

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2015 City of Peterborough Investment Grant

We have received a Community Investment Grant of \$1500 from the City of Peterborough, a \$500 reduction from previous funding. Our application was originally for three-year funding of \$7000 per year, the increase of \$5000 acting as seed funding to create a new permanent position. The staff report submitted to City Council indicated that there was some debate regarding the eligibility of Trent student funded organisations and we suspect there will be further discussion over the coming year in this regard.

Link Window Repairs/Replacement

Following the vandalism of March 25th, we have replaced not only the window that was broken with a rock, but all of the large windows in the hallway on the main floor have been replaced with tempered thermal pane windows.

For Information

- Our Canada Summer Jobs position has been filled by Laura Klinduch, who worked with us as a House Warden during the 2014-15 academic year;
- We have deployed a new wifi network using Ubiquiti's UniFi product;
- Staff are pilot-testing the use of Philips' Hue lightbulbs for use in the Dining Hall. Hue bulbs can be controlled over wifi and can be changed to any colour, making them useful for our stage lighting for performance-based events;
- Repairs to the foyer staircase carpeting were undertaken to fix a tread that had come loose;
- Our semi-annual preventative maintenance for the stair-lift was undertaken without issue;
- Staff will be working throughout the summer to touch-up paint throughout the building;
- Long overdue masonry repairs will be undertaken along the south side of the Main House in late June/July.

Static/Ongoing Issues

Items in this section are issues that have not undergone significant change since previous reports and are included here to keep the Board apprised of their existence.

- Sadleir House Review [on hold]
- Room B103 renovations [Summer 2015]
- Levy Council [Anticipated update: Late Summer 2015]
- Sadleir House Kitchen updates [pending finalization of accessibility plans]
- Accessibility Planning [Summer 2015]