

# THE WINDERMERE GAZETTE

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE?

- **Windermere celebrates 100 years since incorporation.** It was founded in 1870, but in 1924, under the leadership of Henry Longhurst, the village applied for independent village status with the government of Ontario. Longhurst became the first Reeve (Mayor) of Windermere. **Celebration of 100 years - at The Village Hall - July 5th, 11-4pm**
- **Windermere House** - Lots of things happening at WH this summer. Check out all the changes that have been made over the winter. Stop in for a drink or meal at one of their lovely dining options.
- **Windermere Pub & Patio** - Lunch & Dinner served 7 days/wk. Enjoy the entertainment -Fri.&Sat. 7-10pm
- **The Rosseau** - upscale dining in a beautiful setting. Open 7 days/week - noon to 9pm - starting June 22nd
- **High Tea** -starting Sundays in summer, 2-4pm
- **The Trading Post is open!** Artisanal goods and produce, charcuterie, souvenirs and more.
- **Windermere Marina** -open June 27th -Sun.-Thur. 9am - 5pm, Fri, Sat. 9am - 6pm.
- **Windermere Golf Club** - open to the public for golf until June 29th and after Labour Day. Open for lunch and dinner throughout the season for all.
- **"Wing Night"** -every Thursday with live entertainment.
- **"Euchre Night"** every Tuesday @ 5:45pm - \$25 includes dinner.
- **"Birdies & Bites"** Mon-Thurs, 12-3pm - All of June, 9 holes + 3 course meal - \$99+tax and tip - open to all.
- **"Brunch"** - every Sunday 10am - 1pm - open to all
- **Windermere Garden Centre** Mon.-Fri. - 8 - 5, Sat - 9 - 5, Sun 10 - 4
- **Taylor Farms** - Mon - Fri, 7am - 6pm. Sat. 9am - 5pm. Closed Sun. Pick your own strawberries! Until July 10th.
- **Christ Church Windermere** -services Sunday at 10:30am
- **Windermere United Church** -services Sunday at 10:30am

## The week's article of Historical Interest

**The Mechanics' Institutes** began as voluntary associations of working men seeking self-improvement through education. Established first in England during the 1820s, these community-based institutes offered evening lectures, lending libraries, and periodical reading rooms. In Canada, the Montreal Mechanics' Institute opened in 1828, and in The York Mechanics' Institute (now Toronto) opened in 1830. **The Mechanics' Institute of Windermere was established in 1885.** These institutes reflected the 19th-century hope for self-improvement and the growing thirst for reading material. Over time, they also offered lectures on arts and sciences, lent books, and in effect were considered to be the beginning of the public library system.

They expanded across the world.

In 1885, a small group of individuals applied for a Mechanic's Institute for the Village of Windermere. Following is a small portion of the document submitted for application for membership in the organization, with the community members names below (see pg. 2)



*To the friends of Literature and Mental Culture and Recreation, who frequent the Muskoka Lakes in Summer.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We respectfully submit for your consideration the following particulars of a Literary Institution, about to be established at Windermere :

Windermere is pleasantly situated on the eastern shore of Lake Rosseau, four miles from Port Carling, and nine miles from Rosseau Village.

Its fishing and bathing facilities are not surpassed by any other place on the lakes; the surrounding scenery is beautiful and delightful, and the locality is pre-eminently healthful.

One of its peculiar advantages is a never-failing spring which, even in the hottest days of summer, gushes forth cold as iced water, and beautifully clear.

Metropolitan Toronto Library, Canadian History Department

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June 27th** - Wing night with entertainment @ WGCC.
- **June 28th** - Jake Dudas @ Windermere House
- **June 29th** - Sawyer Lance @ Windermere House
- **June 28th - July 1st - Windermere Marina** is giving away a free Dry Bag with premium fill up, and 20% off select items. Win \$500 in fuel - visit the marina for more details.
- **June 28th (and every Friday for the summer)**, a lunchtime BBQ at the Windermere Wharf - in support of the Windermere and District Lions Club.
- **June 29th** - Strawberry Social - Christ Church 1 - 4pm
- **June 30th** - Christ Church - Canada Day Service & Concert with Neil Barlow & Trumpet and Lunch 10:30am - 1:30pm
- **July 2nd @ 5:45pm** - Euchre Night @ WGCC - \$25 - includes dinner
- **July 4th** - Taryn Rose performing @ WGCC
- **July 5th** - Windermere Anniversary Celebration - Village Hall 11am - 4pm
- **August 10th** - Christ Church @ 7pm in the Garden - 120 years Anniversary

Submissions, content, or to subscribe  
[windermeregazette@icloud.com](mailto:windermeregazette@icloud.com)

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- **Police - Non-emergency**  
(705) 645-2211
- **Fire Department**  
(705)-765-3156
- **District of Muskoka Office**  
(705) 645-2100
- **By-law Office Township**  
(705) 765-3156
- **Wharf Master**  
(705) 769-3611
- **Windermere Golf Club**  
(705) 769-3381
- **Windermere Marina**  
(705) 769-3661
- **Windermere House**  
(705) 769-3611
- **Taylor Farms**  
(705)-769-2368
- **Windermere Garden Centre**  
(705)-769-3238
- **Archives**  
[windermereandareaarchive@gmail.com](mailto:windermereandareaarchive@gmail.com)
- **Lions Club**  
[windermere@ar2lions.ca](mailto:windermere@ar2lions.ca)

Your obedient Servants,

GEORGE PATON, *President.*  
 R. MCGREGOR, *Sec. Treas.*  
 J. R. BOYD.  
 DAVID FIFE.  
 THOS. AITKIN. -

*Provisional Committee of The Mechanics'  
 Institute of Windermere, Muskoka, Ont.*

## Community News

When it comes to understanding who is responsible for the maintenance of "things" around the village, it is good to know exactly what the township does do, and where we, as a community, can "fill in" or help where we can.

### Here is the Township list:

- The grass cutting schedule starts at the end of May/beginning of June, and is cut every 7-10 days.
- The beach is cleaned every morning by Muskoka Goose Control who manage the geese. This program runs from April until September.
- The beaches are topped up with sand before summer and off and on after that. Raking is occasional.
- Rafts and swim lines are installed in June.
- Flowers and planters are NOT managed by the Township. Each community manages their own volunteers with a Communities in Bloom program for some funding.

Where do we fit in? If there is anything on the above list we as community members can help with. Get involved. Join the Windermere Community Volunteer FB group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/714350237419931/>

**Friday, July 5th - 11:00 - 4:00**  
**at The Village Hall**

## The Windermere Anniversary Celebration

**1924 - 2024**  
**100 years since incorporation**

Let's Celebrate! Learn more about the village. Plans for the next 100 years? Your voice counts.

The Archives of the Windermere Women's Institute will be showcasing some of Windermere's history, as well as the occasion of incorporation 100 years ago.