



2025 Annual General Meeting

March 28, 2026

At Utopia Hall

8396 6 Line, Utopia

11- 3pm Luncheon included

Get To Know your Long Ago

AGENDA

Welcome & opening remarks

Land Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes 2025 AGM

Chair's Report

Finance Report

Election of 2026 Board of Directors:

Open the floor for additional nominations:

Chair: Deb Crawford

Vice Chair: Mark Fisher

Treasurer: Bryan Wood

Secretary: Donna Wice

Past President: Ted Duncan

Directors: Hale Mahon, Karen Mahoney

** Love history and heritage?? Love Simcoe County??

Let's *Get To Know your Long Ago* together!

Call or email:

President@simcoecountyhistory.ca or info@simcoecountyhistory.ca

Deb Crawford 705 791 2051

Simcoe County Historical Association

Annual General Meeting for the Year 2024

Held at 7pm on Tuesday May 27, 2025 by zoom

1. Chair Deb Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and confirmed a quorum of 9 members were present.
2. Donna Wice was called on to read the Land Acknowledgement statement.
3. Chair Deb welcomed all attendees.
4. A motion to accept the agenda as presented on the screen was made by Ted Duncan, seconded by Bryan Wood. Carried.
5. A motion to accept the minutes of the 2023 AGM was made by Ted Duncan, seconded by Hale Mahon. Carried.
6. Chair's Report: Deb thanked all her SCHA colleagues for their input and commitment over the active 2024 season, with a varied speakers' season and a positive AGM held at Hawkestone. A strong encouragement for further and greater involvement from the membership was made.
7. Financial Report: A concise summary of 2024 was presented on the screen as prepared by Treasurer Bryan Wood. Moved by Mark Burchell, seconded by Mark Fisher to accept. Carried.
8. Nomination Report: 2025 Board of Directors: Chair Deb opened the floor for additional nominations and called 3 times for names.

Motion to approve the nominations as follows:

Chair: Deb Crawford

Secretary: Donna Wice

Vice Chair: Mark Fisher

Past President: Ted Duncan

Treasurer: Bryan Wood

Directors: Hale Mahon, Karen Mahoney

Nominations were closed with the proviso that SCHA is seeking additional Directors with previous volunteer board experience, also experience with social media, website maintenance, newsletter editing, fundraising and/or a love of the history and heritage of Simcoe County.

Moved by Mark Burchell, seconded by Bryan Wood that the slate of officers be accepted. Carried.

9. Adjournment at 7:16 pm.

Chair's Report

The Simcoe County Historical Association was founded 135 years ago by historian Andrew Hunter and has evolved through several iterations to become the organization it is today. It is an honour to serve as Chair of an association with such a long-standing commitment to preserving and promoting the history of Simcoe County.

The Association's membership reflects a shared dedication to understanding the people, places, and events that have shaped our county. Our work recognizes the diverse histories of Indigenous peoples, early settlers, and later communities, and emphasizes the importance of preserving and sharing these stories for current and future generations.

I am pleased to work alongside a committed Board of Directors that continues to advance the Association's mandate. During the past year, the Association recognized Bayview Wildwood Resort in Severn Bridge with the Heritage Business Award, awarded the Community Partnership Grant to support the Simcoe County Museums History Fair, and participated in events marking the Township of Essa's 175th anniversary. The Andrew Hunter Essay Writing Award was placed on hold while a refreshed program is developed, with plans to relaunch in 2026.

Looking ahead, the Association will focus on strengthening engagement with members and partners across the county's heritage sector. Priorities for the coming year include expanding outreach, fostering collaboration, and supporting initiatives that increase awareness and appreciation of Simcoe County's history. These efforts will help ensure the continued vitality and relevance of the Association.

Deb Crawford

2025 Activity Reports

In Memoriam

Simcoe County Historical Association was saddened to learn of the passing of long time member, Ron Coutts, of Midhurst on September 24, 2025. Ron and his wife Helen were both highly involved in Midhurst United Church, and organizations within their larger community and the agricultural sector.

2025 Heritage Business Award Winner

Bayview Wildwood Resorts were honoured on May 15, 2025 as the deserving winners of the 2025 Heritage Business Award created by Simcoe County Historical Association.

Established in 1898 by Captain Tom Stanton and his family, the resort has amalgamated, expanded and evolved into a year round multi-function destination, all under the careful guidance of 6 generations of the Stanton family. Located on the south shore of Sparrow Lake in Severn Bridge, Ontario; Bayview Wildwood Resort was chosen for their contribution to the development, well-being and heritage of the County.

Now well into their second century of being a vital part of Simcoe County's heritage, Jason Stanton, manager, and his mother Renee shared their story of challenges and changes over that significant span of years with the community and fellow historians. Conversation and light refreshments were thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees.

At the inception of this award in 2018, SCHA set out to honour and thank longstanding businesses operating in the County of Simcoe for their contribution to the development, well-being and heritage of the County. We are very pleased to add Bayview Wildwood Resort to our burgeoning list of recipients.

Community Involvement Awards 2025

The Simcoe County Historical Association received 2 requests for funds to support community projects that align with our philosophy of promoting, preserving and appreciating the history and heritage of Simcoe County.

SCHA was very pleased to assist Simcoe County Museum with \$500 toward the sponsoring of awards and certificates for the April Simcoe County Heritage Fair. As well, in June, Essa Historical Society was awarded \$750 toward the printing of a 175th anniversary of Essa Township commemorative booklet

Andrew Hunter Writing Award

Based on a declining number of essay applicants, the SCHA Executive decided to place the award on hold in 2025. Our aim is to revitalize the 2026 AH award with a strong push targeting virtual advertisement. Invite student participation using all social media platforms, attract youth from 14 to 18 living in Simcoe County, \$700 prize money, Poster, simple assessment matrix and application form developed. Launch date: January 1, 2026.

Social Media Report 2026

Platforms Used:

Facebook

Instagram

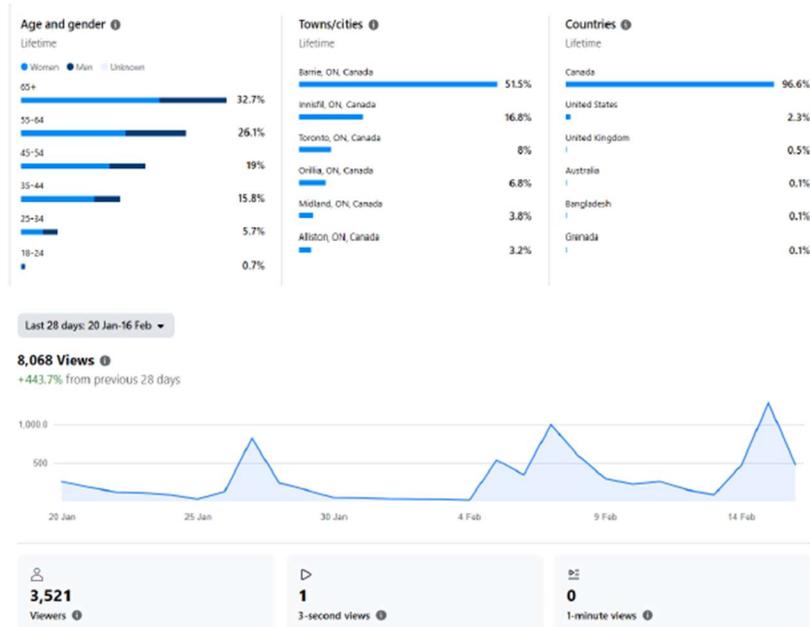
LinkedIn

TikTok

Summary:

Over the past year, our social media presence has continued to strengthen, with growth in content reach. Strategic content planning, improved posting consistency, higher visibility and stronger community interaction. Overall, our social media is playing an increasingly important role in brand awareness, stakeholder communication, and event amplification.

Audience Insights:



Recommendations:

1. Keep posting regularly
2. Use more photos and short videos
3. Highlight events and people

Simcoe County Historical Association
Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended December 31 2025

	2025	2024
INCOME		
Donations(unrestricted)	109	488
Donations(restricted)	500	500
Grants (gov't)	1,159	1,159
Memberships	825	1,001
	\$ 2,593	\$ 3,148
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME		
EXPENSES		
AGM - Meetings.	0	190
Bank Fees (Credit Card/PayPal)	30	34
Speaker Series	330	302
Partnership Grants	1,250	500
History writing awards	0	300
Heritage business awards	178	146
Insurance	880	860
Membership (OHS)	65	65
Memoriam	0	0
Postage/stationary	28	24
Printing	0	0
P.O. box rental	236	236
Marketing	0	170
Domain renewal/website	0	0
Newsletter	0	0
Zoom	242	243
BHA one time pymt.	0	155
	\$ 3,240	\$ 3,224
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		
EXCESS OF OPERATING OVER EXPENSES	(\$648)	(\$75)
OTHER INCOME		
Interest from Bus/Adv/+Sav	175	302
	175	302
NET LOSS/GAIN FOR THE YEAR	\$ (473)	\$ 226
ASSETS		
Meridian GIC3	6,070	5,510
Meridian Bus/Sav/acct.	10,375	10,199
Meridian chequing	4,094	5,537
Meridian Gic4	1,070	1,000
	\$ 21,608	\$ 22,246
TOTAL ASSETS		