

HERITAGE ON THE HILL

Newsletter of the Richmond Hill Historical Society



January - April 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by *Andrea Kulesh*

At the end of each year we reflect on what the year has been like. I read somewhere that endings lead to new beginnings and that is what I believe the theme of 2020 for the Historical Society will be. As I step down from the role as President — I reflect that my time in this position, has been a very positive experience for me.



Andrea welcoming members on Monday, November 18, 2019 (Photograph by Chris Robart)

I have had the privilege of working with great co-executives, member volunteers and enjoyed the fellowship of the Society. My philosophy has always been that every day is history-everyone in the community adds to its rich heritage and culture and the future of the Society is to help to promote and protect our rich history for those who come after us.

Please welcome Jim Vollmershausen as our new President as he steps up to the plate in 2020.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Historical Society. May you all enjoy Good Health and Happiness in the New Year 2020!

Editor's Note...For more about Andrea, and her dedication to the Society, we invite you to read our tribute on page 4.

LOOKING BACK...

1820 — The first log school house (40 by 20 feet) is erected just south of the McConaghy Senior's Centre. Benjamin Barnard is hired as teacher at twelve dollars quarterly. Three school trustees are elected in accordance with the *Common Schools Act* of 1816.

1896 — On November 19, 1896, the first car on the Metropolitan Street Railway Company line arrived in Richmond Hill. Previously terminating at Hogg's Hollow by 1892, it would eventually extend to our village by 1896. Owing to gaps in the electrical lines along the route, the first car made a simple, horse-drawn appearance.

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