



Monthly Digest
August 2021 Volume 1, Issue 4

Happy Birthday ... Party-Time

You ARE coming, right?

Dear Friends,

So, the old gal turns 100 this year, eh? We think she still looks pretty good - in some ways perhaps even better than she did when she was much younger.

THERE'S A PARTY GOING ON RIGHT HERE...A CELEBRATION TO LAST THE YEAR

We're planning to celebrate the Old School's Centennial in style! Many of you have heard already that we will hold a big, COVID-compliant outdoor birthday party on the grounds of the Old School. It's all about having a great old-fashioned time! We have had an overwhelming number of RSVP's. RSVP you say? Yeah, because you know, COVID!

Date/time: **Saturday August 28 from Noon - 3 pm**

Place: **The Old School Yard and ball diamond beside the Mindemoya Old School**

While you don't need an invite to attend, we are required to ask everyone who plans to attend to let us know in advance. If you haven't RSVP'd yet, just let Alison know that you'll be coming by clicking [here](#) to send her an email. Or call 705-377-4336 to leave a message. We very much hope you can attend, we have an awesome afternoon planned - there will be special guests, entertainment, draws for "door" prizes, cupcakes and much more - basically everything you could ever want in a 100th birthday celebration!

This is an old-fashioned picnic, where everyone brings their own picnic lunch and non-alcoholic beverage, except for yummy cupcakes which we provide. So pack a lunch and a mask because, you know, Covid. You might want to bring a blanket or chairs to have your picnic on. No pets please. There will be some tables and chairs for our seniors.

And so, please help us make this the most-enjoyed social event of the season. Grab this exclusive chance to get in on the ground-floor and make this blank party-slate your very own, 'cause you know...*We want you to bring your good times and your laughter too, we gonna celebrate a party with you (... apologies to Kool and the Gang)*

Then...and now

Still solid after 100 years -- the craftsmen who worked on this building so long ago built it to last!



What else we've been up to...

Grant applications - there are lots of opportunities for capital funding

- We have high hopes for our application to the federal Community Revitalization Fund - a new fund set up to help communities bounce back from the pandemic. This is funding to revitalize main streets, increase the accessibility of community spaces and create green infrastructure, including community and cultural spaces. We're asking \$500,000 in capital funding and we are very excited about it. It would be an awesome start, and after all, our whole purpose is "revitalization" of the Old School!

We envision small shops for artisans and others on the main floor, similar to Gore Bay Harbour Centre. Rentals from the small shops would provide most of the funds needed to run and maintain the building. For the lower levels we see a seniors "reconnections" centre with a kitchen, meeting room, games, and other amenities for seniors.

- Other grant applications we're working on:
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund for the energy-saving features of the planned refurbishment, lowering greenhouse gas emissions.
 - The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation has a Rural Enhancement stream for community social and recreational facilities. Well, we're "rural", and community social and recreational facilities are a large part of the proposal for the Revitalization fund. AND we can "stack" grants, so we don't have to give up one grant to accept another.
- We'll also apply to companies, of course. That will be easier when we achieve charity status.

Memberships

...are growing as the word gets out, thanks to our many volunteers and our membership who have been letting people know about us. We've reached more than 250, and the numbers are climbing! How fantastic is that!

Yard Sale and Plant Sale

The yard sale in Mindemoya on Sunday July 11th was a great success. Volunteers, friends and neighbours brought baking, farm vegetables, and we had mugs, bags and other memorabilia. The sale raised over \$900!

It seems a long time ago now, but back in June our volunteers raised \$88 by holding a plant sale. Our dedicated volunteers are AMAZING!

Mugs, Bags, Medallions and More



You can order mugs and bags by emailing mindemoyaoldschool@gmail.com. Better yet, you can get them and other items at the Birthday Bash! Jim Smith still has a very limited quantity of medallions available. They will also be on sale at the Birthday Bash, or contact [Jim Smith](#) directly to get your medallion.

Last but never least: Our members are our heart

As always, we encourage you to reach out to us if you have any questions or suggestions or if you would like to volunteer and/or become a member. Memberships are still a steal at \$10/single or \$20/household and a great way to show your support.

As we prepare for the usually lovely and sometimes a little melancholy autumn season, with our very own D-(hopefully V)-Day rapidly approaching when we present our Business Plan to Council, we know we will be looking back at one of the best birthday bashes this island has seen in a very long time - all thanks to you guys.

We really do want to both thank and meet our membership and -- hopefully -- new supporters. A birthday bash is the perfect occasion, we will see you then!

- Previously published newsletters can be accessed [here](#)
- Click to **READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE**



FOMOS
Box 146, Mindemoya, ON, P0P1S0