

# inSpire

A newsletter from Friends of The Spire



Dear Friends:

As the year comes to a close, we are providing an update on our current grant activities.

## **Window Replacement**

We are delighted to announce that a grant application for \$30,000 for replacement of windows in the upper and lower halls, kitchens and offices was approved. The grant is from Faithful Footprints, funded by the United Church of Canada. Friends of The Spire (FOS) is matching this with funds primarily from a generous community donor and a generous donation from a couple in the Sydenham Street United Church (SSUC) congregation. The contract with Aaben has been signed by both SSUC and FOS. Installation will take place in the spring of 2021. The new windows will reduce heating costs in the winter, provide ventilation in warmer months and enhance the appearance both inside and outside.

## **Live-screening of Services and events**

The grant application to East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church in the

amount of \$2,500 has been approved for video live-screening of services and events. A matching amount has been pledged for the remaining cost of equipment and for moving the “control centre” if deemed desirable.

### **Kingston Heritage Grant**

A grant for \$7,200 has been received from the City of Kingston Heritage Fund. The grant will fund salaries during summer 2021 for two people who will implement the grant “The Spire: Telling our Stories.” This exciting initiative will attract tourists and locals, and spread the story of The Spire.

### **Underway**

FOS is the lead organization, in collaboration with KPP Concerts, in an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant application for a project titled “Live at The Spire”. It will involve a competition among Kingston musical artists. Ten successful ones will take part in a recording and video session, followed by extensive distribution of the products. KPP Concerts will organize and manage the project.

The roof on the “heritage” part of our building will need to be replaced in 2021. The Business Management Group is in the process of defining the scope of work and obtaining quotes. Donations of the Old Age Security “COVID windfall” this year resulted in \$11,000 for the roof, as a start towards the cost of this important project.

### **Final Opportunity for a 2020 Tax Receipt**

Your generosity has allowed The Spire to take shape and flourish. From making this beautiful, historical building fully accessible (elevator, upgrading washrooms, the renovated entrance!) to upgrading floors, lighting and now windows, you have been there for each step of this journey.

This year has provided its challenges and we have missed seeing many of you at The Spire for performances, meetings and other events. We hope you have been joining us on [Facebook](#) where we provide links to live-streamed performances and other information.

**If you are able, please consider a [year-end donation](#)** to help us continue to develop our wonderful community hub. As 2021 progresses, we hope to share non-distanced space with you again!

On behalf of The Friends of The Spire, I wish you the very best of the holiday season and the happiest of new years.



Bruce Hutchinson  
President  
Friends of The Spire Inc.