

# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Christa Lowry



## Mayor's Report November 17, 2020

### Virtual Halloween Contest

To help families celebrate Halloween safely this year we ran two great contests for all ages to participate in without leaving their home. The contests included the Virtual Halloween Costume Contest and the Virtual Pumpkin Carving Contest. All prizes support local Mississippi Mills businesses or featured our museums. We received over 70 entries to the costume and pumpkin carving contests. Contest submissions can be seen on the municipal website here: [www.mississippimills.ca/en/explore-and-play/mississippi-mills-halloween-fun.aspx](http://www.mississippimills.ca/en/explore-and-play/mississippi-mills-halloween-fun.aspx)

I would like to send a big thank you to all those who participated. There were so many great costumes and creative pumpkin carvings! By submitting your photos for the contest, you also made Halloween a lot more fun for those who are not participating in traditional ways this year. I put together a short video to share the costumes and pumpkins with the residents of Orchard View, Country Haven and Fairview Manor. The video can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/g8UQ4YP69ko>

### Happy Birthday Dr. James Naismith

November 6, 2020 was Dr. James Naismith's 159<sup>th</sup> Birthday! For his birthday week, I encouraged residents to take the #NaismithBirthdayChallenge: grab a basketball and shoot some hoops at school, at home or check out the improved Court at Gemmill park or at the Clayton Community Centre. Residents take a quick video of their best shot, share the video on social media using the hashtag [#NaismithBirthdayChallenge](https://www.instagram.com/NaismithBirthdayChallenge) and then tag friends to challenge them. Naismith Birthday stickers have been distributed to all elementary school kids in Mississippi Mills to encourage them to take advantage of the great weather and make Dr. Naismith proud!

<https://youtu.be/WTXyKJddiNE>

### Mississippi Valley Textile Museum: 2020 Winner of the National Trust for Canada Ecclesiastical Insurance Cornerstone Award

Congratulations to the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum for being a recipient of the "Resilient Places Award" from the National Trust for Canada and Ecclesiastical Insurance! The Ecclesiastical Insurance Cornerstone Awards brings national attention to exemplary projects and places that contribute to quality of life and sense of place, illustrating the viability of heritage buildings and sites for traditional or new uses. The award celebrates owners and organizations using historic places or landscapes in ways that illustrate extraordinary resilience, significance, and benefit to a community over a sustained period of time, with a successful track record of 10 years or more. Notably, Stephen Braithwaite and the Almonte Heritage Redevelopment Group were granted the same National Trust for Canada award in 2019.

From the National Trust for Canada Press Release:

*Located in the annex of the former Rosamond Woolen Company (built in 1867), the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum has been part of the community for over 35 years. A National Historic Site, this industrial museum combines traditional textile displays with activities and events focusing on the region's heritage, culture, and role of the textile industry.*

*The museum – which pioneered the first proclamation of pride month in the municipality of Mississippi Mills in 2020 – prides itself on having open door, safe space policies for community members of all ages. They also have a longstanding partnership with the local college, providing student training opportunities.*

*Through the years, the museum has evolved and adapted to make the site more inclusive to visitors, and to ensure that it is well maintained for future generations*

**Rural Ontario Municipal Association Board of Directors Meeting: November 13, 2020**

A summary report will be included on the December 1, 2020 Committee of the Whole agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christa Lowry', written in a cursive style.

Christa Lowry  
Mayor of Mississippi Mills