



Hello,

Thanks to those who responded to my last email about the Vital Signs project. I was delighted to see the interest since the project will be a bigger activity in the coming year, with public discussions regarding the current state of Kawartha Lakes and how to make improvements.

This year end is an especially interesting time to look back over the year's events at [KWCC](#). Our planning collaboration with BGC Kawarthas (formerly Boys and Girls Club Lindsay) resulted in the youth program opening in February at Fenelon Falls United Church. The youth attending quickly dubbed it "[The Loft](#)". By September it was possible to move to a bigger and more permanent location closer to the schools. Youth attendance is increasing and new activities are being added.

Through the first six months of the year, we participated in the "[Downtown Revitalization 2.0](#)" project led by the Chamber of Commerce and City Economic Development. Recently, Fenelon Forward (part of KWCC) convened a meeting to coordinate efforts on the many projects in town that are related but don't fit into the defined OMAFRA funding scope of "downtown": things like bridge reconstruction, Baddow bypass, HGTV show possibility, park and trail planning, Trent-Severn developments, growth planning.

Meanwhile, The Grove Theatre, with its beginnings in KWCC, continues to grow from strength to strength. This month, [the amphitheatre](#) itself was officially transferred from KWCC to The Grove Theatre. Our outstanding theatre venue will continue to serve the community in many ways..

A couple of weeks ago I heard Bob Rae being interviewed about his career as he retires from the UN. He recalled the spirit of collaboration he experienced years ago with indigenous groups regarding the Ring of Fire development, once again in the news. He said the theme that emerged there was "the power of unity, the dignity of difference." That was certainly the feeling in April, at KWCC's Annual Meeting. Celebrating ten years of [KWCC](#) put all the activities in a longer term perspective of what is possible through [community collaboration](#).

What KWCC has been able to accomplish is the result of many organizations and dozens of individuals who joined numerous initiatives over the years. We look forward to continuing in that spirit in 2026 and in the years to come.

Best wishes to you and yours for joy in the Holidays, and satisfaction in your endeavours of the New Year, from all of us at Kawartha Works.

Jim Armstrong  
Chair, [Kawartha Works](#)