



St. Joseph's
Kingsbridge
Community

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Township of North Huron
P.O. Box 90, 274 Josephine Street
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May 20, 2017

Dear North Huron Council members,

Kingsbridge is a hamlet in northern Huron County, and is surrounded by farms and seasonal cottages. There are no public buildings in this area. When the local church closed in 2012, it left a vibrant rural community isolated. There was no venue for public gatherings, service group meetings, rural education or rental options.

St. Joseph's Kingsbridge Community (SJKC) was formed with a goal to preserve an historic building, while providing a multi-use facility for residents and visitors to Ashfield Colborne-Wawanosh. . In June 2015, SJKC achieved ownership of the former church, and with over \$200,000 in private donations and over 250 volunteers, have opened the upstairs of the (renamed) Kingsbridge Centre for public use, while the downstairs is being renovated as funds permit. SJKC and the Kingsbridge Centre provide a cultural centre for Southwestern Ontario, with a community based agenda.

For the 2017 season, the Kingsbridge Centre's regular programs have been enhanced, thanks to a successful Ontario150 Community Celebration grant. "Kingsbridge Celebrates Canada's 150th" is a series of six events at the Kingsbridge Centre celebrating Ontario and Canada's rich history. The 2nd event in the series is *Kingsbridge The Musical*.

Kingsbridge The Musical is an original theatre production written by local playwright Warren Robinson, depicting life in rural Ontario in the 1950's. The play involves a cast of 35 local actors, a five -piece band, and countless volunteers producing sets, costume and design.

The Kingsbridge Centre has become a cultural destination for Ashfield- Colborne- Wawanosh and Huron County. SJKC would like to invite Council members to visit our municipality, and attend *Kingsbridge The Musical* as our guests. The play runs **June 15,16,17 at 8 pm , and June 18 at 2pm.** At the performance of your choice, simply **bring your municipal business card**; this will be your ticket for free admission. We look forward to your attendance.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Miltenburg

Director, SJKC