

Heritage documentary filmed in King

A unique exploration of a township and its people. North of Toronto is a landscape similar to the countryside of England. Villages, farms, rolling hills and quiet side roads create a fantastic place of discovery. This is its story, told with youthful imagination.

Many people in King might have noticed the Wanted Media crew filming throughout the Township.

They have been working on a historical documentary by award-winning producer, director and historian Mark Magro. This film tells the story of villages, people and landscapes in King Township.

Currently in production, it is slated for completion this fall.

The original concept for this film came from historian Elaine Robertson, former chair and current

member of the Township of King Heritage Committee and teacher at Kettleby Public School.

For a number of years, she has wanted to make a documentary illuminating the importance of local heritage from a student's perspective.

Financed by The Township of King Heritage Committee, this film has been deemed a project of great significance.

Valuable resources have been provided by staff of King Museum, King Archives, Toronto Region Conservation Authority and many local residents.

"With all this support, the end result will be a memorable film that can be enjoyed by many for years to come," said Magro.

The students involved in this project are from the

Achievement, Initiative, Mentorship (AIM) Group.

This unique enrichment program was initiated by Robertson at Kettleby Public School. Besides conducting research in specific areas in King Township, the students are learning about the production of a documentary and the work it entails. They are having the opportunity to work with a professional team on the production. All in all, this is an enriching experience for intermediate students.

The first-hand knowledge of local heritage has given the students an insight into the importance of appreciating and maintaining cultural and built heritage.

"Tearing down buildings creates cultural amnesia. The students have been impressed by the richness of history but also saddened by the thought-



Wanted Media is filming a historical documentary about King Township with the help of students from Kettleby Public School. The film is being created by award-winning producer, director and historian Mark Magro. The idea for a documentary on King came from Elaine Robertson, former chair of the heritage committee and teacher at Kettleby Public School.
photos submitted by Wanted Media

less elimination of structures that has taken place over the years," said Robertson.

Magro explained the film focuses on local history.

"This film is a perfect introduction to local history," said Magro. "It shows the important role King Township played in the early development of

impressed me with their thoughts and their views on history."

Wanted Media is a production company that Magro founded several years ago and has already produced and directed three historical documentaries for the Township of Scugog, Caledon and Uxbridge.

Nonquon Island, Magro's second film won the 2008 Scugog

Heritage Award and *The Story of Uxbridge Station*, was premiered at the Fine Arts University in Warsaw, Poland last October. Recently, these two films have been accepted into the ReelHeART film festival, which will make its Toronto debut today (June 24).

More information can be found at www.wanted-media.ca.



The crew working on the historical documentary of King Township, films students from the Achievement, Initiative, Mentorship (AIM) Group from Kettleby Public School who have been very involved in the project. The project is being financed by the Township of King Heritage Committee.

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