



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Elizabethtown-Kitley, ON

### **A Lasting Tribute: New Bandshell to Honour Sherril Mitchell at Douglas A. Scott Jr. Memorial Park**

**Lyn, ON** — The Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley is pleased to announce the development of a new community bandshell at Douglas A. Scott Jr. Memorial Park in Lyn. This project is inspired by the life and legacy of the late Sherril Mitchell, a beloved teacher and dedicated community member.

The concept of the bandshell was brought forward by Dave Mitchell, Sherril's husband, who wished to make a meaningful contribution in her memory. After a conversation with Councillor Rob Smith, the idea of constructing a public bandshell quickly gained traction. With enthusiastic support from Council and the community, the Sherril Mitchell Memorial Bandshell is now set to become a vibrant new focal point for local events and gatherings.

Sherril Mitchell taught at Lyn Public School for over 20 years, where she was adored by students, parents, and colleagues alike. Known for her ability to engage and motivate children, she was behind everything from school musicals and plays to public speaking contests and the iconic Great Egg Drop. Outside the classroom, Sherril was a quiet advocate for her students' well-being, ensuring that those in need had access to proper clothing and care.

In addition to her contributions to education, Sherril was an active member of the Lyn community in many ways. She and her close friend Betty Bates helped put up Christmas decorations on the streetlights along Main Street, a small tradition that many in the community remembered fondly. She also dedicated time each fall to making and selling pies to support the Lyn Anglican Church, furthering her commitment to local causes.

Together with Dave, Sherril was deeply involved in local service, most notably with the Brockville Lions Club and the Lions Club Steel Band. The couple also played a leading role in organizing community events such as the Terry Fox Run and the Lyn community breakfast.

Councillor Rob Smith introduced the Bandshell project to Council, supported by an initial private donation of \$40,000 from Dave Mitchell. The bandshell will be constructed using low-maintenance, accessible materials and will include electrical service for lighting and sound. This will make it ideal for concerts, public speaking, movie nights, weddings, anniversaries, fundraising auctions, and much more.

“This bandshell is a reflection of Sherril’s deep love for children, education, and her community,” said Councillor Smith. “It will be a lasting space for joy, creativity, and connection in the heart of Lyn.”

An Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to oversee the project, comprising Adrain Geraghty, Sylvia Foxton, Dave Mitchell, Jim McMullen, Ray Morrison, and Councillor Rob Smith. The committee will launch a community fundraising campaign in June, with the goal of completing the bandshell by this fall.

The Township extends its deepest thanks to Dave Mitchell for his generous contribution and to all those who continue to honour Sherril’s legacy through this initiative.



*From Left to Right: Adrian Geraghty, Paul Mitchell, Rob Smith, Jim McMullen [Missing: Sylvia Foxton, Dave Mitchell]*

### **How you can help:**

The Sherril Mitchell Memorial Bandshell is a community-driven initiative, and your support can help bring this project to life. Donations are now being accepted through the Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley's website. Whether you contribute financially, volunteer your time, or help spread the word, every effort counts in building a space that will serve as a lasting tribute to Sherril's legacy and a gathering place for generations to come.

To donate, please visit: [ektwp.ca/donateSMMB](https://ektwp.ca/donateSMMB)

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For more information regarding this project, please contact:

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