

Outside Bodies – Progress Report Form

Name:	Gill Cleeve
Name of Organisation	Stratfords of the World
Progress report since last Town Council meeting:	<p>Announcing the 2027 Reunion in Stratford, PEI, Canada</p> <p>The Stratfords of the World (SOW) organisation is pleased to announce that the next international reunion will take place in Stratford, Prince Edward Island, Canada, from September 22nd to 28th, 2027. This gathering will bring together citizens from the six Stratfords located in the United Kingdom, Canada (Ontario and PEI), New Zealand, Australia, and the USA for a week of cultural exchange, friendship, and celebration.</p> <p>A Brief History of Stratfords of the World</p> <p>Stratfords of the World began in the mid-1980s when Stratford, Connecticut, and Stratford, Ontario, invited Stratford-upon-Avon to form a Sister Cities partnership. The first exchange took place in 1984, and the initiative has since expanded to include Stratford, New Zealand; Stratford, Prince Edward Island; and Stratford, Victoria (Australia).</p> <p>Over the years, reunions have been held approximately every two years (except during the COVID-19 pandemic), with each town taking a turn as host. These gatherings have fostered deep friendships and cultural understanding, often featuring music, theatre, dance, and historical presentations celebrating both the individual communities and their shared heritage.</p>

	<p>Recent and Upcoming Reunions</p> <p>The most recent reunion was hosted by Stratford, Taranaki, New Zealand, in January 2025. Looking ahead, Stratford, PEI, is honoured to be the host for 2027 and is preparing a welcoming program to showcase its unique heritage and hospitality.</p> <p>Why Attend?</p> <p>The Stratfords of the World reunions provide a wonderful opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet and reconnect with fellow Stratfordians from across the globe. • Experience local culture through performances, tours, and community activities. • Strengthen international ties between our sister cities. <p>SoW encourage all those interested in this unique global community to mark their calendars and join them in Stratford, PEI, from September 22nd to 28th, 2027, for what promises to be another memorable reunion. Further details will be shared as planning progresses.</p> <p>For more information, join this facebook group (1) Stratfords of the World Facebook</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/groups/1696548830577007</p> <p>Stratfords of the World – Connecting Communities Across Continents.</p>
Date provided to Town Clerk:	23/03/25