

The Front Porch Show is a "talk show" style, variety format with a focus entirely on the remarkable people, groups, services and stories that make St. Marys a very unique and special place to live, play, and raise a family.

This year (2017) the inaugural season of The FPS saw our audiences, both live and online increase with each successive episode. Our last two shows had live audiences of approximately 200 people and online views were well over a thousand.

The entire production is dependant on volunteers and equipment donated, operated, set up, torn down and transported by those generous citizens. The equipment often comes from 3 or 4 different sources, in different states of disrepair, age, and quality. Often, the pieces aren't compatible and we again rely on one of our volunteers to rig something together to "make it work."

The wear and tear that this already aging equipment endures during its transportation, set up and use is also a consideration as we have no budget to upgrade or repair equipment.

We would like to keep the show free and accessible to all that wish to attend. For many, attending the Sunday evening show has already become an integral part of their weekly plans. We are looking to purchase the equipment necessary to continue to produce the show. We would like to have reliable equipment that can be depended upon to perform for years to come.

As we are reaching out to the municipality to fund this purchase in its entirety, we suggest that this equipment would also be accessible to the Museum for its many functions, the Library, and any other department within the town.

We also feel that the entire cost of the equipment falls well under the 25% of our total cost since it is typically donated, as are the services, time and skills of the many volunteers that make the show happen . If each volunteer were to be remunerated for their time and skill set, the one time cost for the production equipment would be far below the 25% in just one season. There is no question The Front Porch Show exceeded our greatest expectations and as the volunteers that spend countless hours each week building the show, preparing guests, our live commercials (which are free, and performed by the business owners themselves) we are excitedly looking forward to Season Two.

However, we do need the help of our municipality to keep this magic alive, and ensure a quality show each and every Sunday in July and August.

Robert Edney - Executive Producer, The Front Porch Show