



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** Members of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation  
Advisory Committee (PACAC)

**From:** Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator

**Meeting Date:** September 1, 2016

**Subject:** Report PACAC16-028  
Places of Faith Workshop

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## **Purpose**

A report to recommend that the PACAC host a Places of Faith Workshop in February, 2017.

## **Recommendations**

That the PACAC approve the recommendations outlined in Report PACAC16-028, dated September 1, 2016 of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

- a) That the PACAC approve a budget of \$5,000 toward the cost of hosting a Places of Faith Workshop in February, 2017
- b) That the PACAC strike a sub-committee tasked with the organization of the Places of Faith Workshop

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

The anticipated overall budget for the Places of Faith Workshop is approximately \$10,000. In addition to the contribution from the PACAC, other sources of funding and sponsorship opportunities would be pursued to make up the difference. An allocation of \$5,000 toward the overall cost of hosting the Places of Faith Workshop can be accommodated in the Special Projects budget for 2017.

## Background

In July, 2016, the Chair of the PACAC and staff from the Heritage Preservation Office participated in a telephone meeting with Robert Pajot, the Project Leader for Regeneration at the National Trust for Canada, to discuss the possibility of hosting a places of faith workshop in Peterborough. The National Trust has recently hosted workshops in both Sydney, Nova Scotia and Ottawa, and is holding a workshop dedicated to the topic of regenerating places of faith on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at its annual conference in Hamilton.

The challenges faced by places of faith in Peterborough are shared by those in urban centres across Canada. Declining attendance and insufficient funding to maintain and operate historic monumental churches represent two of the most pressing challenges. The proposed conference in Peterborough would be held near or during Heritage Week in February, 2017 and would draw upon local, provincial, and national expertise and best practices to discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by the preservation of places of faith.

The catchment area for the workshop would extend south and east to include the lakeshore communities of Belleville, Cobourg, and Port Hope, and west to the City of Kawartha Lakes to include Lindsay. The intention would be to include municipalities regionally that are facing the same challenges as Peterborough, with a focus on monumental urban churches, rather than smaller rural churches.

Funding for the workshop is anticipated to come from a number of sources, including seed funding from the PACAC budget for special projects in 2017. The sub-committee would work to secure the remainder of the required funding through grant applications and sponsorships. It would also be tasked with developing the program in partnership with Heritage Canada and logistical arrangements for the day.

Submitted by,

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