City of Peterborough

To:	**Members of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC)**
From:	**Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator**
Meeting Date:	**February 2, 2017**
Subject:	**Report PACAC17-011 Project Approval App-Based Walking Tour**

Purpose

A report to recommend that the PACAC receive a proposal regarding the creation of an electronic exploration app of the City's heritage sites.

Recommendations

That the PACAC approve the recommendations outlined in Report PACAC17-011, dated February 2, 2017 of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

a)   That the PACAC pursue the Peterborough hiSTORIES project as the starting point for a mobile device-based exploration app of the City's heritage sites,

b)   That the PACAC identify the Peterborough hiSTORIES project as it's commemoration of the legacy of Martha Kidd, and;

c)   That a Terms of Reference be created for retaining a contract staff person to complete the research collection and application development for the project.

Budget and Financial Implications

The project is anticipated to be completed within the $9,871.15 already committed for the Martha Kidd commemoration.

Background

Following Martha Kidd's passing in 2012, the PACAC decided to commemorate her work as a driving force for heritage in the City. Several projects were considered but proved either too costly or limited in their community accessibility. In the summer of 2016 the committee commissioned a report on the feasibility of creating a tour of the City's heritage buildings that included an oral history component to help capture the intangible heritage of Peterborough's historic places. The work included determining community capacity to provide the stories, creating a set of pilot recordings, and providing recommendations on how best to present them. The report on the project is included as Appendix A of this report and the demonstration version of the project can be viewed at https://peterboroughistories.wordpress.com/

The Peterborough hiSTORIES project is based broadly on similar projects developed in Toronto and Europe that tie audio clips and images to map points. The oral histories are linked directly to specific buildings and landmarks in Peterborough in order to provide locals and tourists with interesting personal stories, memories, and facts in order to connect the individuals on a more personal level with the places that they are visiting. Developed as an application for mobile devices, the information can be accessed while visiting the site itself.

The City has recently upgraded its mapping systems and now uses highly functional software called ESRI that would be able to support the project as envisioned in the 2016 report. Geomatics staff is reviewing the project to see how best to fit it into the City map system. Staff is recommending that this project proceed and that the funds already allocated be used to hire a researcher to collect data on a series of historic locations in the City. As the app develops, more sites can be added to create unique themed maps and walking tours.

Submitted by,

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Appendix A - Project Proposal App Based Walking Tour