



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of the Committee of the Whole

FROM: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

MEETING DATE: September 8, 2009

SUBJECT: Report CSACH09-015
Establishment of an Official Register of Places of Cultural
Heritage Value or Interest

PURPOSE

A report recommending the establishment of a Register of Places of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for the City of Peterborough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSACH09-015 dated September 8, 2009, of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That Council approve the Land Information Systems (LIS) based inventory of properties evaluated for their heritage significance as the City's Register of Places of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest; and,
- b) That the recommendation of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC), that properties with a preliminary score of 30 points out of 100 on its Heritage Building Evaluation Score Sheet be deemed suitable for inclusion on the register; and,
- c) That the City Clerk be authorized to keep available for viewing by the public a current copy of the Register to be updated at regular intervals by the Heritage Preservation Office; and,

- d) That Council adopt the attached list (Appendix B) as its Register of Places of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budgetary or financial implications resulting from this report.

BACKGROUND

In 2006, City Council approved Report CSCH06-011 of the Committee of the Whole recommending that:

“Pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act* Section 27.1 as amended by the *Stronger City of Toronto for a Stronger Ontario Act*, 2006, the register of places of cultural heritage value or interest kept by the clerk, be upgraded to include properties that have not been designated under Part 4 of the Act, but that the Council and municipality believe to be of cultural heritage value or interest;”

Section 27 of the Ontario Heritage Act requires the Clerk of the municipality to keep a register of the designated properties in the City. Under the amendments made in 2006, the register may now also include properties that are not designated but that the Council and municipality believe to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

Properties listed on the Register as ‘eligible properties’ are not designated, but should be considered for designation by Council as appropriate. They are not protected to the same extent as designated properties but listing does ensure one important control: it requires the owner of a building to give 60 days notice of their intention to seek a demolition permit. The 60-day waiting period provides Council the opportunity to review the heritage value of the property and determine whether or not to designate it. Peterborough, like many municipalities, has many more properties worthy of designation than time and staff resources permit. The 60-day waiting period provides Council time to seek input from PACAC and begin the designation process to protect a building that proves to be significant. This provision in the Act also allows Council to require the submission of plans, if it wishes, and other information about a property’s redevelopment.

Over several summers, the Heritage Preservation Office has evaluated all the properties in Schedule ‘J’ and a large number of properties in Schedule ‘H’ of the Official Plan using PACAC’s Heritage Building Evaluation Score Sheet. This score sheet has five categories under which points are assigned. Four of these categories can be completed based on a site visit but the fifth category is for the building’s historical associations. A maximum of 25 points can be awarded for historical associations and

these points are assigned once the building has been thoroughly researched using archival records.

PACAC has determined that the minimum number of points needed for a building to be considered for designation is 55 out of 100. It is impractical to do the historical research for the nearly 2300 properties that have been evaluated so far to determine the final score for each building. Instead, the recommendation is being made that the minimum score for inclusion on the Register as an eligible property be set at 30 points. If an eligible property listed on the Register is threatened with demolition, the historical research can be completed to determine if it should be recommended to Council that the building be designated. In this way, a building that has relatively low value architecturally, but has very significant historical associations and scores the full 25 historical points, will meet the 55 point minimum for all categories and be eligible for designation.

The Heritage Preservation Office, in partnership with the City's Land Information Systems (LIS) office, has created a digital database of all the properties evaluated to date. The buildings have been ranked in four categories, A through D, with Category A buildings being the most significant. With all the data in the City's Geographic Information System (GIS), it is now possible to identify and map the location of buildings of heritage value across the City. The heritage data in the LIS is connected to the other property information data the City maintains so that it is possible to create a list of heritage properties with all of the information required by the Ontario Heritage Act to be included for each listing on the Register. The law requires that this list be kept by the Clerk and excerpts made available upon request. The City is allowed to charge fees as required for the service. The Heritage Preservation Office will provide updates of the Register to the Clerk's office at regular intervals to reflect additions and other changes to the Register, as approved by Council.

Submitted by,

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Attachments: Appendix A – Report CSCH06-011 - Changes to Heritage Procedures
Appendix B – Register of Places of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest.