



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

REPORT

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: June 16, 2021

REPORT NO.: PD-2021-0042

SUBJECT: Draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit – Staff Comments

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2021-0042, dated June 16, 2021, entitled “Draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit – Staff Comments”, regarding staff’s comments on the draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit update from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI), be received;

AND FURTHER that Council receive for information the comments attached in Appendix A to this report, as submitted to the MHSTCI in advance of the commenting deadline of July 1, 2021.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) is updating the Ontario Heritage Toolkit following proclamation of the amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* and associated Regulation on July 1, 2021; and,
- Staff have submitted comments on the five draft guides that make up the Ontario Heritage Toolkit in advance of the commenting deadline of July 1, 2021 (Appendix A).

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with staff’s comments on the draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit that have been submitted to the MHSTCI in advance of the commenting deadline of July 1, 2021.

The Ontario Heritage Toolkit is a series of materials provided by the MHSTCI for municipal councils, staff, Municipal Heritage Committees, planners, heritage professionals and organizations, property owners, and others to provide guidance relating to the heritage conservation process in Ontario. The first iteration of the Ontario Heritage Toolkit was published by the Ministry of Culture in 2006, following the 2005 amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA). The Ontario Heritage Toolkit is comprised of six individual titles, including:

- Your Community, Your Heritage, Your Committee (a guide to establishing and sustaining an effective Municipal Heritage Committee);
- Heritage Property Evaluation (a guide to listing, researching and evaluating cultural heritage resources in Ontario);
- Designating Heritage Properties (a guide to municipal designation under Part IV of the OHA);
- Heritage Conservation Districts (a guide to district designation under Part V of the OHA);
- Heritage Places of Worship (a guide to assist in the conservation and protection of all heritage places of worship in Ontario); and,
- Heritage Resources in the Land Use Planning Process (a guide to cultural heritage and archaeological policies of the Provincial Policy Statement).

Following its introduction on May 2, 2019, the *More Homes, More Choices Act* (Bill 108) received Royal Assent on June 6, 2019. The amendments to the OHA arising from Bill 108 are intended to improve the consistency, transparency and efficiency of municipal decision-making as it relates to cultural heritage resources. On September 21, 2020, the MHSTCI released a draft regulation under the OHA associated with the amendments made through Bill 108. The amendments to the OHA and accompanying proposed regulation will be proclaimed and come into force on July 1, 2021.

On June 1, 2021, the MHSTCI released an updated draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit for review through the Environmental Registry of Ontario, with a commenting deadline of July 1, 2021. Five of the Toolkit guides are proposed to be updated to coincide with the amended OHA, while Heritage Resources in the Land Use Planning Process is not being amended at this time.

Staff are generally supportive of the draft updates to the Ontario Heritage Toolkit. In order to meet the July 1, 2021, commenting deadline on the draft Ontario Heritage Toolkit updates, staff have submitted comments to the MHSTCI through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) in advance of this deadline. The comments attached in Appendix A to this report are intended to seek clarification on terminology, provide case studies for identified scenarios, and to enhance connections with the updated *Ontario Heritage Act*.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report aligns to the Town's Strategic Plan recognizing the value to preserve, protect and promote our distinctive historical urban and rural character of Halton Hills through the conservation and promotion of our built heritage, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources.

This report also identifies shaping growth as one of the Town's Strategic priorities.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement was not needed as this report is administrative in nature.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Heritage Halton Hills was consulted in the preparation of this report.

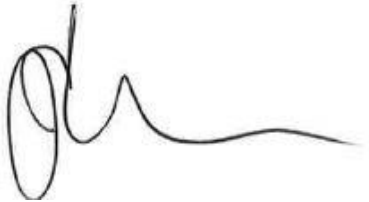
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have any financial implications.

Reviewed and approved by,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bronwyn Parker". The script is cursive and fluid.

Bronwyn Parker, Director of Planning Policy

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "John Linhardt". It features a large, stylized initial "J" followed by a series of connected loops.

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Development

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Chris Mills". It includes a prominent horizontal stroke across the top of the signature.

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer