



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning

DATE: August 25, 2023

REPORT NO.: PD-2023-055

SUBJECT: Housekeeping Amendment – Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2023-055 dated August 25, 2023, regarding the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council pass the updated Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law as contained within Appendix A of Report PD-2023-055;

AND FURTHER THAT Council repeal the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law No. 2010-0006, as amended by By-law No. 2010-0015, By-law No. 2015-0057, and By-law No. 2018-067.

KEY POINTS:

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

- In 2019, the Planning, Public Works and Transportation (PPT) Committee reviewed Report PLS-2019-0077 regarding updates to the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program Bylaw.
- The Minutes of the November PPT meeting were adopted by Council however the By-law was not brought forward as a separate item for adoption.
- In order to rectify this, staff are recommending that Council now pass the updated Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law as previously approved by PPT and subsequently repeal the former by-laws as described.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

In 2010, the Town of Halton Hills enacted By-law No. 2010-0006 to establish a Heritage Property Tax Refund Program under Section 365.2 of the Municipal Act to offer tax relief to owners of properties designated under Part IV and Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* to help property owners maintain and restore the Town's identified cultural heritage resources. This By-law was subsequently amended through By-law No. 2010-0015, 2015-0057, and 2018-0067.

The Heritage Property Tax Refund By-law No. 2010-0006 has been amended three times between 2010 and 2015 to reflect changes to and provide clarification for the application process and requirements. As part of the review of application materials for the 2020 Heritage Property Tax Refund Program, staff prepared a new Heritage Property Tax By-law to replace the provisions of current By-law 2010-0006, as amended through By-law Nos. 2010-0015, 2015-0057, and 2018-0067. The changes to the municipal bylaw are primarily administrative in nature, generally related to ensuring clarity of application and eligibility requirements for all designated property owners who are eligible for the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program.

While the Planning, Public Works and Transportation (PPT) Committee reviewed Report PLS-2019-0077 regarding updates to the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program Bylaw, inadvertently, the By-law was not brought forward separately by staff for adoption and must be now approved by Council to rectify this issue. The proposed by-law is shown in Appendix A.

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:

Staff from the Clerks department were consulted in the preparation of this report, with staff from the Office of the CAO and Finance consulted in the preparation of the updates to the By-law.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

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

Reviewed and approved by,

Bronwyn Parker, Director of Planning Policy

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning & Development

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer