

# **REPORT**

**REPORT TO:** Chair and Members of the Planning, Public Works and

**Transportation Committee** 

**REPORT FROM:** Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner

**DATE:** November 8, 2019

**REPORT NO.:** PLS-2019-0077

**RE:** Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law Update

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Report PLS-2019-0077 dated November 8, 2019, regarding the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law Update be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council pass the updated Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-Law as contained within Appendix A of Report PLS-2019-0077;

AND FURTHER THAT Council repeal the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program Bylaw No. 2010-0006, as amended by By-law No. 2010-0015, By-law No. 2015-0057, and By-law No. 2018-0067.

### **BACKGROUND:**

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.

### **COMMENTS:**

The Heritage Property Tax Refund By-law No. 2010-0006 has been amended three times between 2010 and 2015 to reflect changes to and clarification of the application process and requirements. As part of the review of application materials for the 2020 Heritage Property Tax Refund Program, staff have 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 by-law are primarily administrative in nature, related to ensuring clarity of application and

eligibility requirements for all property owners who are eligible for the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program.

The proposed by-law is shown in Appendix A.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This report relates to the implementation of the Strategic Direction D. to Preserve, Protect, and Promote Our Distinctive History, the goal of which is to preserve the 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 directly relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

- D.1. To require and develop a planning framework for the conservation of significant built heritage, cultural landscapes and archaeological resources.
- D.2. To encourage the preservation and enhancement of the historical character of the Town's distinctive neighbourhoods, districts, hamlets and rural settlement areas.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact associated with this particular report.

#### **CONSULTATION:**

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

### **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:**

No public consultation was required as part of the preparation of this report.

### SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The continuation of the Town's Heritage Tax Refund Program will ensure current and future residents understand and act on the importance of preserving our community's heritage resources. This report supports the Cultural Vibrancy pillar(s) of Sustainability and the theme of Valued Heritage Legacy. In summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is Good.

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

The new By-law will be referenced on the Town's website and be included in application materials for the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program for properties designated under Parts IV and V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* within the municipality.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Staff requires the execution of the Heritage Property Tax Refund Program By-law for the 2019 Heritage Property Tax Refund Program, and to ensure compliance with Section 365.2 of the Municipal Act.

Reviewed and Approved by,

Bronwyn Parker, Manager of Planning Policy

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability

**Brent Marshall, Chief Administrative Officer**