

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes

Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number ED2020-017

Meeting Date: September 1, 2020

Title: Adoption of the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada

Description: Adoption of the Standards and Guidelines for the Historic Places in Canada as the municipal standard for historic preservation

Ward Number: All

Author and Title: Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

Recommendation(s):

That Report ED2020-017, **Adoption of the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada**, be received;

That the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada be adopted as the City's conservation standard for heritage properties; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

In fall 2019, staff brought forward the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada to the Kawartha Lakes Municipal Heritage Committee for proposed adoption as the municipal standard for heritage conservation in Kawartha Lakes. Members of the committee reviewed this document, which was authored by Parks Canada as a national standard for heritage conservation. At its meeting of January 9, 2020, after reviewing the document, the Kawartha Lakes Municipal Heritage Committee adopted the following resolution:

KLMHC2020-06

Moved By A. Adare

Seconded By M. Sloboda

That Report KLMHC2020-02, Adoption of the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, be received;

That that the Municipal Heritage Committee endorse the Standards and Guidelines as the municipal standards for heritage preservation; and

That this recommendation be forwarded to Council for adoption.

Carried

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada is a federal document that was first developed by Parks Canada in 2003 and expanded and amended in 2010. This document is intended to provide practical guidance and best practices for heritage planners, conservation practitioners, and stewards of heritage properties throughout the country. It outlines in-depth guidelines for the preservation, restoration, and management of a wide-array of historic properties, landscapes, structural types, and materials and established a sound decision making process for undertaking and assessing heritage properties.

The Standards and Guidelines is a nationally-recognized document which has been adopted at federal, provincial, and municipal levels to help guide the conservation of historic properties across the country. In Ontario, it has been adopted by the Councils of many major municipalities which have robust heritage programs. It provides agencies with a benchmark for assessing heritage treatments and can form the basis for assessment, review and sound-decision making regarding proposed projects on heritage properties.

The adoption of the Standards and Guidelines provides staff and the Municipal Heritage Committee with a clear, transparent, and nationally accepted framework for: evaluating applications to alterations to heritage properties; reviewing development applications and applications to municipal financial incentive programs to ensure best practices in the treatment of heritage properties; and for providing advice to property owners regarding conservation and management of heritage properties. It also provides accepted, professional advice to property owners on practices in the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of heritage properties to assist in their stewardship of the municipality's heritage resources as well as outlining the decision making process and standards that the municipality expects with regard to heritage properties. Adoption of the Standards and Guidelines as the municipal standard for heritage conservation will bring the City in line with other municipalities across Ontario with regards to best practice in this area.

In practice, the best practices and conservation decision-making process outlined in the Standards and Guidelines are already in use in Kawartha Lakes in the review of heritage alteration applications, development alterations related to heritage properties and districts, and applications to financial incentive programs which involve heritage properties. By adopting the Standards and Guidelines as the official municipal preservation standard, the City will be open and transparent about its processes and expectations with regards to the preservation of heritage properties within Kawartha Lakes. In particular, the adoption of this document as the municipal standard for preservation will provide clarity for potential large scale development projects that involve designated heritage properties in order to guide their preservation, modification and/or restoration.

When alterations to historic buildings are proposed, the Standards and Guidelines provides recommendation, guidance and best practices with regard to how to approach certain types of projects but does not offer specific solutions because it is recognized that all heritage properties and proposed alterations are unique and have their own context and limitations. Proposed projects involving heritage properties will still be reviewed and assessed on a case by case basis to ensure that proposed alterations are both appropriate to the nature of the heritage property and reflect its realistic contemporary use.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No alternatives are recommended.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations of this report.

Relationship of Recommendation(s) To The 2020-2023 Strategic Plan:

The adoption of policies and procedures supporting heritage preservation in the municipality supports the strategic priority of an Exceptional Quality of Life by supporting and promoting arts, culture and heritage. The adoption of the Standards and Guidelines supports long-term heritage conservation and planning.

The adoption of the Standards and Guidelines also aligns with the municipality's guiding principle of Open and Transparent because it provides a clear and transparent framework for evaluation and sound decision-making regarding the alteration, restoration and/or redevelopment of heritage properties.

Consultations:

Municipal Heritage Committee

Attachments:

Appendix A – Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada



Standards and
Guidelines.pdf

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