

Ontario Heritage Act Subcommittee Minutes

June 24, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Athol Hart, Julia Hartman, Ian McKechnie, Bill Bateman (regrets), Jim Garbutt (regrets)
Staff: Emily Turner

The subcommittee reviewed the new Ontario Heritage Toolkit which corresponds to the changes in the Ontario Heritage Act and shared their comments. A summary of the discussion is as follows:

- In general, the new toolkit is better than the old one with good illustrations and examples
- The previous versions had more illustrations and examples which would be helpful in the new ones as well
- There should be discussion related to digital notices as opposed to just the newspaper for clarity
- There should be a greater discussion of non-traditional heritage resources, especially rural and agricultural examples
- The discussion of adaptive reuse could be expanded and should discuss how the new used can provide heritage value to a property
- There should be better guidance on protecting modern buildings
- There should be better guidance on engaging with First Nations communities and protecting indigenous cultural heritage resources in municipalities
- There was not an updated version of the Land Use Planning guide which would have been very helpful
- The flowcharts are not readable and are very intimidating. They would be better if they were visually interesting and integrated into the toolkit documents
- The documents should not only be provided as electronic version when they are finalized and there should be an option to obtain hard copies for accessibility

Action Items

- Write up comments in letter format to submit to the ERO (Emily and Athol)

Next meeting: As needed