



Municipal Heritage Committee Report

Report Number: KLMHC2021-42
Meeting Date: October 7, 2021
Title: Potential Designation of the Scugog River
Description: Potential designation of the Scugog River as being of cultural heritage value or interest
Author and Title: Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

Recommendation:

That Report KLMHC2021-42, **Potential Designation of the Scugog River**, be received for information.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

In its 2021 work planning, the Municipal Heritage Committee identified the designation of the Scugog River as one of its priorities for the year, with particular focus on the section running through Lindsay. The Committee felt that it was important to recognize it as a significant cultural and natural heritage feature within the City of Kawartha Lakes.

The Committee discussed this initiative at its September 2, 2021 meeting and passed the following motion:

KLMHC2021-102

Moved By W. Bateman

Seconded By A. Adare

That a subcommittee be formed to investigate the potential for designating the portion of the Scugog River in Lindsay.

Carried

This report addresses the potential to designate the property and is intended to facilitate a Committee discussion.

Rationale:

There is a strong case for recognizing the Scugog River as being of cultural heritage value. It is an important cultural heritage landscape within the town of Lindsay. The river, particularly in the Lindsay section, has been an important indigenous travel route for generations and was critical in the development of modern settlements. While it is clear that the river has cultural heritage value and some kind of protection is warranted, further research and analysis will be required in order to make a full case for designation.

There are a number of key items that the Committee will have to address as part of the designation process:

- A heritage evaluation report: a heritage evaluation report will need to be completed which outlines how the river fulfils the criteria for designation.
- Any jurisdictional issues with regard to the waterway: the Scugog River forms part of the Trent Severn Waterway and is under federal jurisdiction. The Committee will have to engage with and work with Parks Canada on this project.

- Appropriateness of designation as a method of protection: designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act may not be the most appropriate method of conserving the river's cultural heritage value. The Committee may wish to explore alternative methods of protection undertaken by other municipalities to protect cultural heritage landscapes which do not have defined property boundaries.
- Outcomes: the Committee may want to brainstorm the desired outcomes for this project. While protection of the river is important in its own right, the goal of the designation may extend beyond protection for protection's sake and the project should be framed with those goals in mind.

Cultural Heritage Landscapes

The Scugog River is an example of a cultural heritage landscape. A background document from the Ontario Heritage Trust is attached as Appendix A in order to give the Committee some background on this type of heritage asset and provide more information for the Committee on cultural heritage landscapes in the conservation process.

Other Alternatives Considered:

This report is intended to facilitate discussion. There are no recommended alternatives.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial or operational impacts as a result of the recommendations of this report.

Consultations:

N/A

Attachments:

Appendix A – Cultural Heritage Landscapes (Ontario Heritage Trust)



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(Acting) Department Head: Richard Holy, Acting Director of Development Services