

Municipal Heritage Committee Report

Report Number: KLMHC2022-016

Meeting Date: March 3, 2022

Title: Recommendations of the Housing Affordability

Task Force

Description: Insert description of report

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

Planning

Recommendation:

That Report KLMHC2022-016, Recommendations of the Housing Affordability Task Force, be received; and

That comments be forwarded through the Chair to the Director of Development Services.

Department Head:	
Financial/Legal/HR/Other:	
Chief Administrative Officer:	

Background:

In December 2021, the Ontario Government, through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, appointed a Housing Affordability Task Force in order to provide recommendations to the government regarding measures to addresses current issues faced on Ontario regarding housing supply and affordability.

The report from the Task Force was released in February 2022 and presented a wide range of recommendations regarding getting more homes built and reducing the cost for Ontarians to build, buy and rent housing. In general, the report aims to make new housing a planning priority and streamlining the process for new development. The report is attached as Appendix A.

There are a wide range of recommendations within this report, including several which relate directly to heritage preservation. These are:

- Recommendation 16(a): Prevent abuse of the heritage preservation and designation process by: (a) Prohibiting the use of bulk listing on municipal heritage registers
- Recommendation 16(b): Prevent abuse of the heritage preservation and designation process by: Prohibiting reactive heritage designations after a Planning Act development application has been filed
- Recommendation 17: Requiring municipalities to compensate property owners for loss of property value as a result of heritage designation, based on the principles of best economic use of land.

These recommendations, if implemented, would have a significant and serious impact on heritage preservation in Ontario and severely impact the ability of local municipalities to protect important heritage resources within their communities. Community Heritage Ontario, the provincial umbrella organization for municipal heritage committees across the province, has issued a letter to Minister Steve Clark outlining its concerns. This letter is attached as Appendix B.

Rationale:

Staff are currently recommending that the Committee express its concern, if any, in a letter to the Director of Development Services that can be integrated into a wider municipal response to the recommendations. This is the approach being taken at other

municipalities across Ontario who are also expressing concern over these recommendations.

Other Alternatives Considered:

The Committee could choose not to provide a response to the Task Force's recommendations.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

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

Consultations:

Heritage Planners Network Community Heritage Ontario

Attachments:

Appendix A – Report of the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force



Appendix B – Community Heritage Ontario Response



Department Head email: rholy@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Richard Holy, Director of Development Services