

Staff Report

Presented By: Jay Pausner, Manager, Planning and Development

Meeting Date: May 20, 2025

Subject: Cultural Heritage Master Plan Final Draft and Implementation

Attachment(s): Cultural Heritage Master Plan May 2025
Historical Context Overview Report – 2025
Estimated Implementation Schedule

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Cultural Heritage Master Plan.

Report Summary

On January 20, 2025, Council received the draft Cultural Heritage Master Plan (CHMP) and provided comments. The draft was posted for final public comments and is being brought to Council for final consideration.

Background/Analysis

Comments Received from Council

During Council discussion in January 2025, Council raised the points noted below.

1. Identify Marine Heritage:

Council identified a desire to discuss and identify marine heritage as a contributor to the Town's cultural heritage. An additional section has been added to the Plan discussing marine heritage.

2. Concerns about Heritage Property Prioritization:

A concern was identified that prioritizing the designation/registry of properties is not appropriate. The Plan indicates that the process as outlined in the Heritage Act is time-sensitive and time-consuming and the Town will need to discuss the most important properties.

3. Nuclear History:

It was noted the background heritage information ends prior to WWII. It is noted that the background information can be expanded and built upon.

4. Concerns about identifying property whose owners object:

As mentioned in the meeting, Council identified concerns with developing a policy which would allow for the designation/identification of heritage properties without the landowners consent. No change is proffered in the report.

Public Comments

Arts:

A comment was received that “The Arts” should be considered as part of this Plan. As described, this Plan is focussed on properties of cultural heritage and the legal and regulatory processes to identify, commemorate and celebrate heritage property. The Town has adopted a Public Art Policy and is considering also, through the Destination Development Plan, how art plays a role in the vitality of community life.

Owner objections to Designation:

One comment was received indicating support for the overall Plan approach which maintains the recommendation that landowner consent is not a requirement for the identification/designation of heritage properties.

Implementation Schedule and Costing

A proposed implementation schedule and costing is attached. The schedule outlines the proposed timing of the recommendations and proposes estimates for the cost to implement each item. Other than the Official Plan Amendment, items will be brought forward to both Heritage Committee and Council to consider in the upcoming Business Plan process.

Linkages

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Pillar 4: Fostering a Vibrant Place to Live and Visit
- Business Plan Alignment: Development Services Major Initiative

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding

No costs or revenue is associated with this report.

Prepared By: Jay Pausner, Manager, Planning and Development

Reviewed By: Mark Paoli, Director, Development Services

Approved By: Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer