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**Date** September 27, 2021 **Report No.** 2022-641

**To** Members  
Brantford Heritage Committee

**From** Nathan Etherington  
Chair of the Brantford Heritage Committee

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## 1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item ☐  
Item For Consideration ☒

## 2.0 Topic **Brantford Heritage Committee Priorities for 2022** **[Financial Impact = \$7,500]**

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## 3.0 Recommendation

- A. THAT the Brantford Heritage Committee Priorities for 2022 BE RECEIVED for information purposes; and
- B. THAT the estimated financial resources identified for the Brantford Heritage Committee Priorities BE REFERRED to the Estimates Committee for consideration during the 2022 budget process.

## 4.0 Background

In the summer of 2017, the Brantford Heritage Committee met to establish priorities for the Committee to undertake for the 2018 year and identified the estimated financial resources for those priorities. This was in keeping with the guidance in the Ontario Heritage Toolkit, entitled *Your Community, Your Heritage, Your Committee*, which suggests that an element of an effective Municipal Heritage Committee is establishing a Municipal Heritage Committee Budget. The Toolkit suggests that "The Municipal Heritage Committee should

submit an operating budget once a year to the finance committee or directly to municipal council outlining its activities, expenses and revenues. The budget process also acts as a strategic planning exercise by encouraging the committee to set its program objectives and goals for the year” (pg.13).

The Heritage Committee continued this process from 2018-2021, establishing various priorities and an associated budget for each year. The proposed set of priorities for the 2022 year and the estimated financial resources needed for these priorities will be discussed at the Heritage Committee’s September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. The priorities are attached as **Appendix A** and described below.

The Heritage Register project has been an ongoing priority, which has resulted in the City’s first Heritage Register which includes all 216 designated heritage properties, as well as the addition of 98 listed properties. In 2021, staff continued to work with ASI on the development of the Group B of over 700 properties. At our July 2021 meeting, staff presented to members of the committee to provide feedback on the proposed approach. It is anticipated that remaining Group B properties will be addressed in 8 quarterly Public Information Centres with the final phase of the project concluding at the end of 2023.

Many priorities for 2022 build on previous years including selecting a candidate for induction to the Prominence Point Program. Estimated costs associated with Prominence Point are \$3,800 for 2022. These costs will cover the required etching of the glass plaque and as well as removing, building a custom crate, shipping, and reinstalling the plaque. In January 2020, the Brantford Heritage Committee received a presentation from the Brantford Police Service nominating a candidate for Prominence Point. Due to COVID, the Subcommittee delayed meeting to discuss this proposed candidate and to verify the information received. This candidate will receive consideration to be the committee’s 2022 inductee.

Another priority carried forward from 2020 is to formalize Heritage Awards Criteria and create a program to recognize individuals who go above and beyond to celebrate Brantford’s rich heritage. This could include the conversion of St. Jude’s into a residential building with condominium units or improvements to a property in the Brant Avenue Heritage Conservation District.

The 4<sup>th</sup> priority involves using members of the committee to develop heritage walking tours to educate the public on Brantford’s built heritage, including information on the designation process. It is hoped that the Heritage Education Subcommittee can develop a Walking Tour once subcommittees are able to resume in-person meetings. Assistance from staff is requested to create a

downloadable PDF that residents can access on the City's website which would outline the tours and provide a brief history and photo of each site.

Architecture Bingo was one prepared activity which was not able to occur in 2021 due to the pandemic, but hopefully will occur in 2022 during May which is Museum Month. This activity will encourage citizens to find properties in their neighbourhoods with specific architecture attributes. Assistance from staff is also requested to create the bingo sheet and to coordinate and launch the activity.

Another recurring priority is sending 2-3 committee members to the Ontario Heritage Conference. This allows members to gain valuable heritage knowledge about their committee work, report back to the committee about their learning experience, and develop support of volunteers for the City of Brantford. Conferences have been cancelled for the past two years, however, we hope to send members to a virtual conference in 2022, if organized.

The Heritage Committee will also be focused on reviewing applications to the Heritage Grant Program which was launched by the City in September of 2019. The Heritage Committee recommended two applications to Council so far in the 2021 year. This is proposed to remain a priority for 2022 year, should Council continue to support the pilot. Staff anticipate a Report back to Council in December 2021 on the status of this pilot program.

The final priority involves recognizing individually designated heritage properties with bronze plaques. A single plaque is estimated to cost \$1,100 and we are requesting funds for up to two plaques which is consistent with previous years. In accordance with our mandate, the Heritage Committee will continue to recommend the designation of properties that it believes to have cultural heritage value to Council.

## **5.0 Conclusion**

The Brantford Heritage Committee first established Heritage Committee Priorities in 2017. This has allowed the Committee to focus on improving the fulfillment of its mandate. Members of the Brantford Heritage Committee should be solicited for feedback and improvements to the plan to discuss, approve, or amend the priorities as needed.



Nathan Etherington  
Chair, Brantford Heritage Committee

#### Attachments

#### Appendix A: Brantford Heritage Committee Priorities for 2022

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required ☐ yes ☒ no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk ☐ yes ☒ no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? ☐ yes ☒ no