

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS
AGENDA
THE FIRST MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ROOM 204
CITY HALL

7:00 P.M.

JANUARY 13, 2015

CHAIRMAN

Appointment of Chairman.

DEPUTATION

Serge Lavoie, MHC Chair 2014 will be in attendance to give an overview of the Committee. **Pages 2-5**

MINUTES

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting on October 7th, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Heritage Conservation District

NEW BUSINESS

40 Alma Street – Alterations **Page 6**

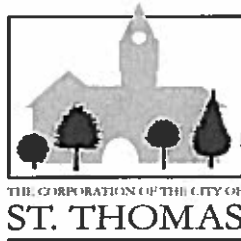
Ontario Heritage Week – February 16-22, 2015 **Pages 7-9**

Appointments to Urban Design Committee

NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT



P.O. Box 520, City Hall
St. Thomas, ON N5P 3V7

MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

FINAL REPORT TO COUNCIL and RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE INITIATIVES

MANDATE OF THE MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1. Research, assess and make recommendations to Council on proposals for the designation of individual properties under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act and for the creation of a heritage conservation district(s) under Part V.
2. Establish criteria for the evaluation of properties of cultural heritage value or interest;
3. Prepare, evaluate, and maintain a list of properties and areas within the City of St. Thomas which describes their historic value or interest;
4. Advise Council on means of conserving, protecting and preserving heritage properties and areas in St. Thomas including advice on alterations to designated properties;
5. Advise Council on current heritage conservation legislation and to assist Council in the preparation of municipal legislation to conserve heritage properties and areas;
6. Implement education and communications' programs and activities to increase public awareness and knowledge of local heritage and any issues arising;
7. Advise and assist Council on any other matters relating to properties or areas of cultural heritage value or interest.

KEY PRIORITIES OF THE MHC OVER ITS FOUR YEAR TERM

1. Public education on value of heritage preservation
2. Inventory properties of heritage value
3. Preserve downtown streetscape, especially Talbot Street
4. Establish "list" of heritage properties on municipal registry
5. Add to portfolio of heritage designated properties
6. Assist in efforts to preserve Railway Assets

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PAST TERM

2011

- Drafted and approved new By-law for Municipal Heritage Committee
- Established committee priorities for the full term
- Commissioned historical monograph of Balaclava Street Public School

2012

- Coordinated town hall meeting on Preserving Heritage in cooperation with the city's Community Improvement Program (CIP) and the St. Thomas Elgin Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
- Heritage Designation for Balaclava Street Public School – By-law 17-2012
- On-going consultations with heritage architects regarding the development of the Consolidated Courthouse
- Council approval of a Register of Non-Designated Properties of Heritage Value

2013

- Committee receives historical monograph of Grace United Church and recommends to council that it be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. Council declines.
- Council approves addition of select Talbot Street properties to the Register of Non-Designated Properties of Heritage Value (Stanley Street to Elgin Street; Elgin Street to St. Catharine)
- The committee commissions a historical monograph of the MCR Locomotive Repair Shops
- Committee announces a partnership with Fanshawe College, GIS, Urban Planning and Landscape Design programs to undertake a design charrette of the full length of Talbot Street.
- First phase of Fanshawe College Design Charrette takes place in September with 180 students and faculty participating. The first day culminates with a Town Hall Meeting at the St. Thomas Elgin Public Art Centre featuring noted planners and heritage architects.
- Committee recommends heritage designation of four properties under the Ontario Heritage Act
- Committee participates in Culture Days promotion with display at the Horton Farmers Market.
- Municipal Heritage Committee Facebook page launched.

2014

- Council approves by-laws designating four heritage properties under the Ontario Heritage Act
 - 86 Talbot Street, McKenzie House
 - 1 Wellington Street, McLachlin House
 - 91 Metcalfe Street, Dingman House
 - 40 Alma Street, former Alma Street Presbyterian Church
- Second phase of Fanshawe College Design Charrette takes place in February with the presentation of 12 streetscape designs for Talbot Street.
- Winning entries in the Design Charrette are unveiled to the general public in a second Town Hall Meeting held at the St. Thomas Elgin Public Art Centre.

- Presentation of the Design Charrette findings given to members of the Downtown Development Board at a breakfast meeting held at the Public Art Centre.
- An inventory of properties of probable heritage value, originally prepared by the LACACS group in the 1990s, was digitized and updated by Fanshawe College student Fernando Cirino
- Council approves further research and consultation into the designation of a portion of Talbot Street as a Heritage Conservation District
- Council approves the listing of Talbot Street properties from St. Catharine to Alma Street to the Register of Non-Designated Properties of Heritage Value.
- Committee recommends designation of three additional properties under the Ontario Heritage Act
 - 76 Talbot Street
 - 750 Talbot Street, CASO Station
 - MCR Locomotive Repair Shops, Elgin County Railway Museum

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES AND INITIATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE FUTURE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE

At its final meeting in October 2014, the members of the Municipal Heritage Committee identified the following potential initiatives which should be presented to the next Committee and Council. They are presented in no particular order.

1. Committee should prepare Heritage Walking tours preferably using a mobile app for audio and visual presentation. This could supplement or replace the existing Walking Tour Maps which are outdated.
2. The St. Thomas should develop formal relationships with other heritage-minded organizations in the city and county. This would help cross-promote the municipalities cultural agenda.
3. The Committee should remain committed to a Heritage Conservation District for Talbot Street and request funds from Council for an initial study to identify boundaries and timing issues.
4. The Committee should advocate for the preparation and adoption of a Heritage Property Standards By-law to ensure that properties with heritage value are not lost through neglect.
5. In an effort to protect heritage properties on Talbot Street, the Committee should research mechanisms for ensuring that properties sold at auction for tax arrears contain iron-clad undertakings for appropriate development and preservation within a set period of time.
6. The Committee should remain committed to adding up to four properties to the portfolio of Designated Heritage Properties already in place. These should represent all areas of the city and all types of uses and architectural styles.
7. As part of the designation process, the Committee should consider designating the Michigan Central Railroad bridge over Kettle Creek. This structure is now owned by On Track St. Thomas and is proposed to be converted to an elevated park.
8. The Committee should review its inventory of heritage properties for future candidates for full Designation. It should also consider a formal listing of all of these properties until the Municipal Heritage Registry.
9. The Committee should advocate for the use of the full range of regulatory and tax tools outlined in the Community Improvement Plan By-law as a means of encouraging preservation and re-use of existing heritage properties.
10. Consider the possibility of encouraging Habitat for Humanity to select a heritage home as one of its future home ownership projects.
11. Based on the experience of the Committee over the past four years, funding for short term staffing and various projects should be sought from all three levels of government. The work of the committee can be labour-intensive and can be taxing to a group of volunteers with limited time.
12. The Committee should consider advocating for a Railway Lands Master Plan to protect those heritage assets and ensure they are developed in a coherent fashion.
13. The Committee should continue with town hall meetings and other public events to fulfill its public education mandate.

It was very nice speaking with you this morning. I have made a list of the exterior work that needs to be done at the 40 Alma St. location in St. Thomas, ON. If you could please review this and then redirect it to the the Heritage Committee for their review and approval.

Thank You,

Jo-Anne Pranger

List of Exterior Work to be done at 40 Alma St. St. Thomas Ontario

- stonework repairs on at least 2 buttress locations as well as other small repairs at various locations around the building
- completely replace eaves trough and down drain on building to prevent further damage to exterior surfaces
- roof repair and replacement on south / east corner
- resurface flat roof on east side of building
- replace windows with efficient thermal pane windows to reduce heating costs
- repairs and repaint exterior doors

Owners: William and Jo-Anne Pranger
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January 5, 2015

Ontario Heritage Week 2015 – February 16 to 22

Dear friends and colleagues,

Ontario Heritage Week 2015 runs from Monday, February 16 to Sunday, February 22 and provides an opportunity for the people of Ontario to celebrate the province's rich and diverse history. Heritage Week also serves as a dedicated time to recognize the important work done by heritage organizations and volunteers every year.

The Ontario Heritage Trust will launch Heritage Week on February 17, 2015 with a special event at the Mattamy Athletic Centre (formerly Maple Leaf Gardens) in downtown Toronto. The theme for this year's celebrations is **Play. Endure. Inspire. – Ontario's sport heritage.** The historical location for this event will provide a fitting backdrop that has played host to many great moments of athletic competition.

Ontario's sport heritage is rich and robust. From prehistoric times to the present day, the province has produced generations of athletes, sports teams and diverse competitive traditions. Ontario has nurtured a strong sports culture, which today remains an important part of our contemporary identity supporting vibrant communities across the province.

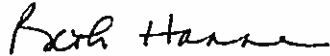
During Heritage Week and throughout the coming year – as we celebrate the 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games – the Trust will join with local communities to showcase the people, places and events that have influenced the history of competitive sport in Ontario, while connecting with diverse communities across the province in new and exciting ways.

Communities may wish to host their own special events during Heritage Week 2015 in locations such as arenas, pools, sports halls of fame, local sports clubs or wherever sports are played. As in years past, however, all celebrations of local heritage – regardless of theme – are encouraged to take part in Heritage Week.

We once again invite you to submit your special events and activities for posting on the Ontario Heritage Trust's website. Please follow the instructions on Page 3 of this letter for submitting your event listings. You can visit our website (www.heritagetrust.on.ca) over the coming weeks to see the exciting activities and events that are being planned in communities across the province.

Ontario's sport heritage has contributed to building stronger communities and improving our quality of life. We look forward to celebrating these important aspects of our culture with you during Heritage Week 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Hanna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Beth" and last name "Hanna" clearly distinguishable.

Beth Hanna
Chief Executive Officer

How to submit your community event listing for Heritage Week 2015:

1. Visit the Ontario Heritage Trust website at www.heritagetrust.on.ca
2. From the slideshow at the top of the Home page, click "Heritage Week"
3. Select the "Submit a community event" link
4. Follow the onscreen instructions, complete the simple online form and click Submit
5. Please submit multiple events separately
6. The deadline for submissions is Friday, January 16, 2015
7. Event listings will be reviewed for content and style before being translated and published to the website (approximately two weeks)

Personal information on this form is collected under the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.18 and will be used for marketing and fundraising purposes. For further information, please contact the Executive Assistant at 416-314-4903. This information will not be shared with other organizations. The Ontario Heritage Trust reserves the right to edit any submissions for style and/or content. (Forms will be sent to marketing@heritagetrust.on.ca.)

For more Heritage Week information, please contact:

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Community Programs Officer
Ontario Heritage Trust
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Website: www.heritagetrust.on.ca