



Subject: Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee Recommendation

Report Number: CS 25-009

Committee Name: Museum, Culture, Heritage & Special Awards Advisory Committee

Submitted by: Amelia Jaggard, Deputy Clerk and Duncan Bryce, Records and Legislative Coordinator

Meeting Type: Council Meeting

Meeting Date: Monday, April 14, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT report titled “**Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee Recommendation**” be received as information; and
- B. *THAT Council direct staff to assess the following as potential heritage designations:*
- *Pillars in Memorial Park*
 - *Oddfellow Lodge*
 - *Tillsonburg Masonic Centre*
 - *186 Bidwell Street*
 - *Gibson House*
 - *Lake Lisgar*

BACKGROUND

At the March 19, 2025, Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee meeting, the following resolution was passed:

Moved By: Doug Cooper

Seconded By: Joan Weston

THAT the Museum, Culture, Heritage, and Special Awards Advisory Committee advise Council to direct staff to assess the following as potential heritage designations:

- Pillars in Memorial Park
- Oddfellow Lodge
- Tillsonburg Masonic Centre
- 186 Bidwell Street
- Gibson House
- Lake Lisgar

Carried

DISCUSSION

This report facilitates presenting the above request to Council for consideration.

In accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference section 1.7, it is the role of the committee to make recommendations to Council regarding the designation of buildings, natural areas and parks with historical or architectural significance to ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of heritage resources in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18*.

Council may, by by-law, designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest if, the property meets the prescribed criteria, and the designation is made in accordance with the process outlined in the Ontario Heritage Act.

As part of the designation process, the municipality must provide a clear description of the property for identification, along with a statement outlining its cultural heritage value or interest and a description of its heritage attributes.

Staff Recommendation

Should Council wish to support the committee's recommendation, staff recommend that the motion include additional clarity to ensure the effective use of staff resources and confirm expectations for reporting back. Below is the recommended motion for Council's consideration:

A. THAT report titled "Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee Recommendation" be received as information; and

B. THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report outlining the process for designating properties of cultural heritage value or interest, specifically addressing the following properties identified by the Museum, Culture, Heritage, and Special Awards (MCHSA) Advisory Committee:

- Pillars in Memorial Park;
- Oddfellow Lodge;
- Tillsonburg Masonic Centre;
- 186 Bidwell Street;
- Gibson House;
- Lake Lisgar;

C. AND THAT staff consult with the MCHSA Advisory Committee to develop a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest for each property, along with a description of its heritage attributes.

CONSULTATION

Museum, Culture, Heritage and Special Awards Advisory Committee, Andrea Greenway, Director of Recreation, Culture and Parks and Kate Bakos, Cultural Heritage Manager/Curator.

FINANCIAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

Associated staff time.

CORPORATE GOALS

How does this report support the corporate goals identified in the Community Strategic Plan?

- ☒ Lifestyle and amenities
- ☐ Customer service, communication and engagement
- ☐ Business attraction, retention and expansion
- ☐ Community growth
- ☐ Connectivity and transportation
- ☐ Not Applicable

Does this report relate to a specific strategic direction or project identified in the Community Strategic Plan? Please indicate section number and/or any priority projects identified in the plan.

Goal – The Town of Tillsonburg will strive for excellence and accountability in government, providing effective and efficient services, information, and opportunities to shape municipal initiatives.

Strategic Direction – Engage community groups, including advisory committees and service organizations, in shaping municipal initiatives.

Priority Project – N/A.

ATTACHMENTS

None.