



REPORT

Development Services - Planning

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Jake Locke, Senior Building Inspector/Plans Examiner
DATE: January 13, 2026
REPORT: DS-02/26 **FILE NO.**

SUBJECT: Heritage Committee Year End Report

BACKGROUND:

Through email, the Clerk's Department requested that the Heritage Committee prepare a brief report outlining:

- A summary of key accomplishments and activities during the current year;
- An update on the status of the committee's work plan; and
- Projected priorities, goals and initiatives for 2026.

DISCUSSION:

Summary and Update on Work Plan

The Committee's 2023-2026 work plan outlined four goals to focus efforts on in order to achieve results over the four-year term:

1. Continue to strengthen/increase the Heritage Inventory to better support the Heritage Uxbridge mandate and preserve history.
2. Enhance Heritage Inventory Listed and Designated Properties to showcase Uxbridge as a strong community anchor that supports cultural heritage, vibrant communities and economic vitality
3. Documenting lost history to tell the story of Uxbridge.

4. To increase public awareness of Heritage Uxbridge, its mandate and the history and culture of Uxbridge Township and instill pride in our Heritage Downtown, businesses and residents.

The Heritage Inventory was strengthened this year with the inclusion of two new designated properties on the municipal register. The Udora United Church and the Quaker Meeting House received designation status as a Part IV property under the Ontario Heritage Act.

O.Reg 9/06 Evaluations to see if properties meet prescribed criteria for designation were conducted by staff and members of the committee. Draft statements of significance have begun to be completed for properties on the non-designated list of culturally significant properties in preparation of future notices of intention to designate. This work is undergoing an accelerated timeline due to changes in the *Ontario Heritage Act* which will remove listed properties from the register if a notice of intention to designate is not posted prior to January 1st, 2027.

The Committee increased public awareness of the history and culture of the Township through the creation of a new pamphlet advertising the role of the committee, specifics relating to designated properties, and the values of preservation. The pamphlets have been distributed to hubs within the Township for public consumption.

Additionally, the Committee attended some public events throughout the community, specifically the February 6th committee open house event with presentation boards, the Community Heritage Ontario conference located in Prince Edward County in June, and the 175th Anniversary event at the Udora United Church in November to present them with the bronze designation plaque.

The Committee sent a letter to Council with the intent of creating a Heritage Conservation District within the historic downtown located along Brock St.

In general housekeeping a new supplier for the slate 'Heritage Pride Plaque' program was selected. New slate plaques have been ordered at a great price point for the quality of product. A new supplier for the bronze OHA designation plaques was selected. Two plaques have been ordered for the designated properties in 2025.

The Heritage Committee and staff have reviewed two heritage permit applications to alter a designated property. A procedural By-law for the administration of these applications was created and passed by Council allowing for them to be processed efficiently.

Priorities, Goals and Initiatives for 2026

Looking ahead to the final year of the term for this iteration of the Committee: work has begun to update the municipal registry and provide up to date information relating to designated properties. The committee will continue to assist staff in pursuing designations of listed non-designated properties of cultural heritage value. A pop-up banner and other means to increase public awareness will be a priority in the coming year.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- Good Governance
- A Vibrant and Growing Economy
- Community Engagement

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report DS-42/25 of Jake Locke, Senior Building Inspector/Plans Examiner be received for information;

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jake Locke, Senior Building Inspector/Plans Examiner