

## Flour Mill Heritage Designation Recommendation

Presented To:	City Council
Meeting Date:	September 13, 2022
Type:	Managers' Reports
Prepared by:	Bailey Chabot Planning Services
Recommended by:	General Manager of Growth and Infrastructure

## Report Summary

This report presents the findings of the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and seeks direction regarding the next steps.

## Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury directs staff to issue Notice of Intent to Designate under the *Ontario Heritage Act* for the Flour Mill Museum located in O'Connor Park, Sudbury (140 St. George Street);

AND THAT the City of Greater Sudbury directs staff to prepare a heritage designation by-law for Council's consideration as outlined in the report entitled "Flour Mill Heritage Designation Recommendation" presented at the City Council meeting on September 13, 2022.

## Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

The protection and conservation of cultural heritage resources provides economic, environmental and social benefits and is consistent with Council's strategic objectives of creating a healthier community and strengthening community vibrancy.

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## Background

On February 8, 2022, Council directed Staff to "initiate the process to designate the Flour Mill Museum building and site of the Flour Mill Museum building now relocated at O'Connor Park under the Part IV of the *Ontario Heritages Act*...". This direction included the following preamble:

- “the Flour Mill Museum building was built in 1902, was located behind the [Flour Mill] silos as part of the silos' iconic workers' red house community, and housed M. Varieur, the foreman for Manitoba's Mills, owners of the Silos;
- the museum building is the only landmark building remaining, with strong historical links to the silos working complex and should be designated to be of cultural heritage value and interest; and,
- the LHC Heritage Planning and Archaeology Report dated October 2021 and first presented to Council on November 23rd, 2021 indicates at page 10 that "The clapboard house likely demonstrates cultural heritage value or interest and may be eligible for listing or—after a cultural heritage evaluation—for designation on the City's heritage register."”(PL2022-12)

The Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) is included as Attachment A to this report.

The Flour Mill Museum Building is owned by the City of Greater Sudbury. It is located on City lands at O'Connor Park (140 St. George Street) in the Flour Mill neighbourhood of Sudbury. The Flour Mill Museum Building is operating as a museum, though it is temporarily closed to the public at the time of writing. When reopened to the public, the building in question will house a new permanent exhibition about the early days of the Flour Mill neighbourhood. The exhibition will use artifacts, historical photographs, didactic text and hands-on elements to tell the stories of the everyday lives and accomplishments of the Flour Mill's Franco-Ontarian founders and their descendants. It will also include some of the history of the local streetcar system and of the flour mill from which the area took its name.

### **Flour Mill Museum Building**

Based on the consultant's review and analysis, it is their professional opinion that the Flour Mill Museum Building has cultural heritage value or interest as it meets three criteria outlined under Ontario Regulation 9/06: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The consultants found that the Property has cultural heritage value or interest for design or physical value, its historical or associative value, and its contextual value. Thus, it is eligible for designation under Section 29 Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The consultants found that the remainder of O'Connor Park, distinct from the Museum, did not meet the criteria outlined in Ontario Regulation 9/06 and would not be eligible for designation under Section 29 Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The consultants note therefore that the heritage attributes would be exclusive to the Flour Mill Museum Building.

### **MUNICIPAL HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL**

Staff have consulted the with the Municipal Heritage Advisory Panel regarding the designation process of the Flour Mill Museum Building. The Panel has reviewed the initial draft of the CHER prepared by LHC and have provided comments. Specifically, the Panel requested that the consultant include details surrounding the current orientation of the Flour Mill Museum Building and how it faces the Flour Mill silos on Notre Dame Avenue and that the connection between the Flour Mill Museum Building and the Franco-Ontarian history of the Flour Mill neighbourhood be expounded in greater detail. The consultant has addressed these comments in the final report, attached as Attachment A.

### **OPTIONS**

Council has options regarding the next steps of this process. The City may:

- Proceed with issuing a Notice of Intent to Designate (NOID) for the property; or,
- Not Issue a Notice of Intent to Designate for the property.

Should Council elect to issue the NOID, and if no notices of objection are received by the Clerks office, staff would return within 120 days of the publication of the NOID with the designating by-law, per the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The consultants recommend that the heritage designation by-law include a site plan, scale drawing and description in writing that identifies the area on the Property that has cultural heritage value or interest including the Flour Mill Museum building with a small three-metre buffer around it and a view from the front

door of the museum building towards the Flour Mill Silos (see pages 68-71 of Attachment A).

## Conclusion

On February 8, 2022, Council directed staff to “to initiate the process to designate the Flour Mill Museum building and site of the Flour Mill Museum building now relocated at O'Connor Park under the Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act...*”.

This report presents the findings of the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and seeks Council direction regarding the next steps.

Based on the findings of the CHER for the Flour Mill Museum Building and consultation with the Municipal Heritage Advisory Panel, staff is recommending that Council issue a Notice of Intent to Designate, and that staff be directed to prepare the draft designation by-law for Council's consideration.

## Resources Cited

1. Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90o18>
2. Council Resolution CC2022-19, passed February 8, 2022, <https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=8ed60f8b-054b-4c86-880b-1ff568ffdf23&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English&Item=24&Tab=attachments>