



MEMORANDUM



TO: Heritage Markham Committee

FROM: Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: May 14, 2025

SUBJECT: The Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards
Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT)
Thomas Symons Award for Commitment to Conservation for 2024
Regan Hutcheson

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning is the recipient of the Thomas Symons Award for Commitment to Conservation as part of the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards.

Background:

- The Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards were established in 2006 in partnership with the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) to recognize individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to conserve Ontario's heritage.
- The **Thomas Symons Award for Commitment to Conservation** recognizes an individual who has made defining contributions to heritage conservation **throughout their professional careers**. One award is granted annually. The successful candidate must meet the following criteria:
 - have made exceptional professional contributions to heritage conversation over the course of their career
 - be a resident of Ontario
 - have demonstrated:
 - leadership
 - commitment
 - creativity
 - positive impact on the community, region or province
 - good conservation practices

Comment:

- Nominated by the City of Markham, Regan received the award from the Honourable Edith Dumont, Lt. Governor of Ontario at a ceremony held at Queen's Park on Friday April 25, 2025.
- Mayor Frank Scarpitti, CAO Andy Taylor and Senior Heritage Planners Peter Wokral and Evan Manning were guests in attendance along with members of Regan's family.

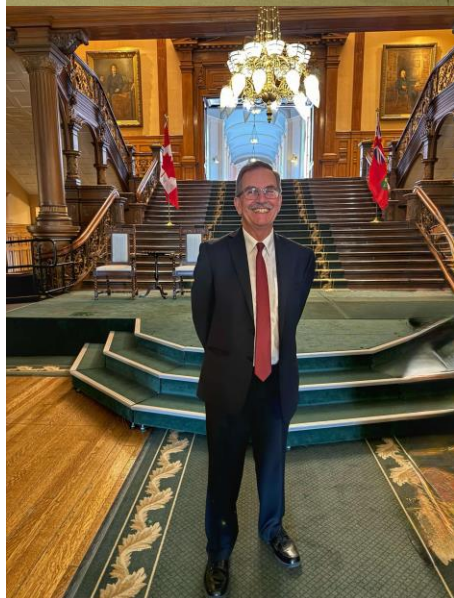
- See Attachment for the OHT Award Recipients Release as well as some photos from the event.

Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham

That Heritage Markham receive as information the memo regarding Markham's Manager of Heritage Planning receiving the Thomas Symons Award for Commitment to Conservation as part of the 2024 Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards.

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Attachment 'A' – OHT Release

Thomas Symons Award for Commitment to Conservation:

Regan Hutcheson

Regan Hutcheson is a cornerstone of heritage preservation in Ontario, managing the City of Markham's Heritage Planning Department for 35 years, and shaping the city into a model for heritage conservation. His work balances conservation with new development, with his influence extending beyond Markham, as he is frequently consulted by municipalities across the province. Regan spearheaded the creation of innovative heritage policies, including financial incentive programs. His contributions include efforts to preserve historical buildings through initiatives like Markham Heritage Estates as well as the establishment of new Heritage Conservation Districts, designation of over 100 properties, and projects like the Stiver Mill restoration and the Unionville Heritage Conservation District Plan. Regan's commitment to the field has made a lasting impact on the preservation of Ontario's built and cultural heritage.



Regan Hutcheson