



MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Markham Committee

FROM: George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: June 10, 2020

SUBJECT: Doors Open Markham 2020 Event Status

Background:

- Doors Open Markham has been an annual event since 2003.
- Markham's event is part of the province-wide Doors Open Ontario hosted by the Ontario Heritage Trust.
- The Doors Open Markham event is planned and held by the Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee, which includes two members of City Council and a number of citizen members appointed by Council. The committee is assisted by staff from Planning & Urban Design and staff from Corporate Communications. Heritage Markham is included in the Organizing Committee but at this time, no citizen members of the committee have volunteered, so Heritage Markham is represented on the committee by Councillor Reid McAlpine.
- This year's Doors Open Markham event is scheduled for Saturday, September 12.

Current Event Status:

- The Doors Open Markham Organizing Committee has met three times so far in 2020 and has done some preliminary event planning, including the selection of selected repeat sites from previous years and some suggestions for new sites.
- When the COVID-19 situation became an issue, committee meetings were suspended. Staff has recently been advised by the Clerk's Department that this type of committee meetings may now resume, but are to be held remotely via ZOOM.
- The Ontario Heritage Trust has advised that the spring Doors Open events have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation. As for summer and fall events, they are still potentially possible, but at this time the decision to proceed or not rests with each municipality.

- The Ontario Heritage Trust has advised that 2020 registration fees can be applied to 2021 if the event does not go ahead.
- Aurora, Windsor, Burlington, and Brockton have decided to cancel their August – September events.

Next Steps:

- Markham's Corporate Communications staff has suggested that planning continue for Markham's September 12 event, taking a "wait and see" approach.

Suggested Heritage Markham Recommendation:

THAT Heritage Markham receive this item as information.