



An agency of the Government of Ontario

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June 1, 2012

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, ON L3R 9W3

Dear Mayor Scarpitti:

The Ontario Heritage Trust is pleased to be accepting nominations for our 2012 Recognition Programs. We invite you to participate by nominating outstanding volunteers through the Heritage Community Recognition, Young Heritage Leaders and Community Leadership Programs. With these Recognition Programs, municipal councils, regional councils, First Nation Band Councils and Métis Community Councils can recognize community efforts to preserve Ontario's heritage.

As Chairman of the Trust, I appreciate the efforts of individuals, groups and communities who help preserve Ontario's unique and irreplaceable heritage treasures. As a member of council, you can see the impact of the culture and heritage sector is immense. Each year almost 19 million people visit Ontario's museums and heritage attractions, 10 million visitors trek through our parks and conservation areas, and over \$4 billion is spent by tourists experiencing Ontario's many cultural activities. Many of the people who work in this sector are volunteers, and their work has a tremendous impact on our communities.

I encourage you to work with your local Municipal Heritage Committee, Conservation Authority, historical societies, museums, land trusts and other local groups to identify individuals, groups and youth that are deserving of recognition. Staff and volunteers in your community may help identify citizens who are making or who have made exceptional contributions to heritage conservation.

Enclosed are brochures for our 2012 Recognition Programs. **The annual nomination deadline for all programs is June 30.** Further program information and nomination forms can be found on the Trust's website at www.heritagetrust.on.ca.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Dawson Bridger, Community Programs Officer at 416-314-0448 or dawson.bridger@heritagetrust.on.ca.

I encourage your council to participate in these programs and celebrate the work being done to preserve and promote heritage in your community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas H.B. Symons". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas H.B. Symons, C.C., O.Ont., FRSC, LL.D., D.U., D.Litt., D.Cn.L., FRGS.
Chairman