



Report to: Development Services Committee

Report Date: September 11, 2012

SUBJECT: Heritage Community Recognition Award Nominations
Ontario Heritage Trust

PREPARED BY: Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning, ext. 2080

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the staff report entitled “Heritage Community Recognition Award Nominations, Ontario Heritage Trust”, dated September 11, 2012, be received;
- 2) That Council nominate the following individuals for the Ontario Heritage Trust’s Heritage Community Recognition Program:
 - Barry Nelson, Built Heritage
 - Wing Morse, Natural Heritage
- 3) That this resolution be referred to the Council meeting on September 12, 2012 to address the nomination deadline;
- 4) And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Not applicable.

PURPOSE:

To seek Council endorsement of Heritage Markham’s recommendation for nominations for the Ontario Heritage Trust’s Heritage Community Recognition Program.

BACKGROUND:

Provincial recognition of local heritage volunteers

The Ontario Heritage Trust’s Heritage Community Recognition Program celebrates volunteer achievement in identifying, preserving, protecting and promoting local heritage. It recognizes that community volunteers play a vital role in conserving Ontario’s heritage.

Any resident of Ontario, over 18, who has made outstanding volunteer contributions in their community in the area of built, cultural or natural heritage conservation is eligible for nomination. Heritage activities must have been provided without payment and posthumous nominations are not eligible. Small project groups may also be nominated, however the entire membership of an organization is not eligible. For example, a municipal heritage committee, historical society or board of a conservation authority would not be eligible.

The nomination deadline is **September 1, 2012** and all nominations must be endorsed by a motion of the municipal council. A council may submit a maximum of one nomination in each category. A detailed description of the nominee and their achievements must be

included in the submission package. Recipients of the award receive a certificate and an achievement pin which is usually presented at a Markham Council meeting.

Past Markham award winners are summarized in Appendix 'A'.

Markham has already nominated a candidate for the cultural heritage category

On June 26, 2012, Markham Council nominated Mr. Sid Kiyoshi Ikeda in the Cultural Heritage category. This specific nomination has already been submitted to the OHT.

Heritage Markham has nominated two candidates

At the August 8, 2012 meeting of Heritage Markham, two candidates were nominated in the Built Heritage and Natural Heritage categories:

- Barry Nelson in the Built Heritage category for his ongoing work as a member and leader on the Heritage Markham Committee;
- Wing Morris in the Natural Heritage category for his work protecting and preserving the natural heritage in the Thornhill community.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Both nominees are worthy of recognition for their preservation activities

Barry Nelson

Mr. Nelson has been a diligent volunteer in the protection of the built heritage of the Markham. He not only owns property on Colborne Street within the Thornhill Heritage Conservation District, but has been a dynamic member of Heritage Markham (Markham's municipal heritage committee) for 5 years. Mr. Nelson was Chair of Heritage Markham for 3 years (2009-2011), and is a strong advocate of continuous improvement of the Heritage Markham Committee operations and ethics. His objective has always been to ensure that applicants are respected and that their views are heard by the Committee. Mr. Nelson has also been an active member of the City's Heritage Markham Architectural Review Sub-Committee.

He has attended the annual Ontario Heritage Conference on behalf of Heritage Markham for four years. At one of the conferences, he was the seminar leader at an interactive workshop on the core communication behaviours as well as the resources and processes needed to build a "High Performance Heritage Committee". During Heritage Week 2012, Mr. Nelson presented a window restoration and repair seminar at the Civic Centre. The event was extremely well attended and was not only educational and informative, but fun for those property owners in attendance. The participants appreciated seeing the 'tools of the trade' first hand as well as having the opportunity to try some hands-on activities.

Mr. Nelson has provided an outstanding contribution as a volunteer member of a municipal heritage committee.

Wing Morse

After his retirement from business life, Mr. Morse felt it was time to give back to his community and so he volunteered in various initiatives with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Earth Rangers and Pomona Mills Park

Conservationists (PMPC). In 2005, he did volunteer work with Earth Rangers at Kortright Centre as an animal care assistant in the rehabilitation of injured and sick wildlife and care of orphaned young for a period of six months. Since that time, most of his environmentally-related volunteer work has revolved around the Pomona Mills Park Conservationists and the rehabilitation and preservation of native species plants in Pomona Mills Park, Thornhill. He has been serving as treasurer of the group for several years with the responsibility of securing funds for PMPC's annual community spring planting of native species trees, shrubs and flowers. In 2006 and 2007, he worked together with Markham's Manager of Environmental Leadership in successfully securing Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund grants for interpretive signs at each end of Pomona Mills Park in addition to the funds needed for our annual community spring planting.

The community spring planting events took place up until 2011, after which he worked with Markham's Parks Planning staff to develop a list of projects that PMPC and the community could do in Pomona Mills Park to ensure much of the work previously done would be given a better chance of thriving. To date, the PMPC were able to: (1) remove a thicket of invasive buckthorn and replant the area with the native shrub red osier dogwood and (2) remove invasive thistle and vines and replace them with a variety of native species shrubs and flowers. Subsequent to each of the work sessions, Mr Morse has spent several hours cultivating the sites to ensure the invasive species do not overtake the newly planted material. He has also helped plant and maintain the flowers at John and Henderson Streets as part of the "Colour Your Corner" program.

Mr. Morse also enjoyed hosting the North American Native Plant Society last September and presenting the work done by the PMPC in the park, as well as attending the "Invasive Plant Management in Ontario" workshop with City staff. Mr. Morse notes that he is only one member of a greater team of other volunteers and Markham staff that has strived to achieve the goal of helping to restore the natural habitat of Pomona Mills Park.

Pomona Mills Park is a much better place for both people and wildlife thanks to the tireless and ongoing voluntary efforts of Mr. Morse.

Nomination deadline is September 1, 2012

The letter requesting nominations sent to Heritage Markham for this award program was dated July 22, 2012. Staff contacted the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) and explained that we could not meet the deadline of September 1, 2012 given the need for a Council resolution. OHT requested that staff forward the nominations before September 1 with a Council resolution in support being sent as soon as possible thereafter.

It is recommended that the Development Services Committee recommendation be referred to the Council meeting on September 12 to address the nomination deadline.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE: (external link)

Not applicable.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Not applicable.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

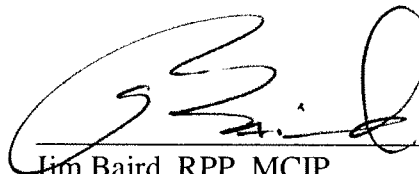
Heritage Markham Committee was consulted.

Heritage Section staff have prepared the nomination packages.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Rino Mostacci, RPP, MCIP
Director, Planning & Urban Design



Jim Baird, RPP, MCIP
Commissioner of Development Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix "A" Past Markham Recipients - Heritage Recognition Awards

FILE PATH:

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Sept 11 2012.doc

Appendix "A" Past Markham Recipients - Heritage Recognition Awards

Year	Recipient	Category
1997	John Lunau	Cultural Heritage
1998	Peter Ross	Built Heritage
1999	William (Bill) Wylie	Built Heritage
2001	Ken Hoyle Marion Matthias Lorne Smith	Built Heritage Cultural Heritage Natural Heritage
2002	Dr. Richard Jarrell Lesley Price Laura Weaver Carol Danard	Heritage Garden Natural Heritage Cultural Heritage Built Heritage
2003	Susan Casella George Duncan	Cultural Heritage Built Heritage
2004	Elizabeth Plashkes Gwyneth Wojna Valerie Burke Raymond & Mavis Smylie William (Bill) Wylie	Built Heritage Cultural Heritage Natural Heritage Heritage Garden Lifetime Achievement
2005	Marion Matthias	Lifetime Achievement
2008	Nigel Connell	Built Heritage
2009	Susan Casella	Lifetime Achievement
2011	Peter Ross Tupper Wheatley	Cultural Heritage Natural Heritage