

4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD., BEAMSVILLE, ON L3J 1L3

905-563-2799

May 10, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Municipal Heritage Register

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on May 8, 2023, passed the following motion:

Resolution Number: RC-2023-58

Moved by: Councillor Lynn Timmers; Seconded by Councillor JD Pachereva

WHEREAS the Municipal Heritage Register is an important tool for the recognition, preservation and protection of cultural heritage properties within the Town of Lincoln and throughout the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Heritage Register allows municipalities to regulate demolition on properties protected under section 27 of the Ontario Heritage Act, to allow for evaluation of potential heritage value or significance, thereby ensuring that their potential cultural heritage value is preserved for future generations;

AND WHEREAS listing a property on the Municipal Heritage Register recognizes a property's potential cultural heritage value, and is generally less complex, time-consuming, and economically burdensome to local municipalities than pursuing the designation of a property as outlined within the existing process, which requires extensive research and documentation;

AND WHEREAS the new legislative requirements of the Ontario Heritage Act associated with Bill 23 mandate assessment of all properties on the Municipal Heritage Register within two years, resulting in need for an unreasonable amount of resources and major budget implications for a local municipality within the short 2-year timeline;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln has 247 listed properties on the Municipal Heritage Register; and

AND WHEREAS the new requirement to remove the listed property after 2 years leaves resources exposed, and unprotected for up to 5 years;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Lincoln addresses this resolution to the government of the Province of Ontario, affirming the importance of the Municipal Heritage Register and its role in preserving the cultural heritage of municipalities throughout the Province;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council of the Town of Lincoln encourages the government of the Province of Ontario to maintain the previous provisions of Section 27 of Ontario Heritage Act which promote the retention and expansion of the Municipal Heritage Register, keeping listed properties on the registry indefinitely, rather than for a maximum of 2 years in order to provide adequate time for the municipality to consider the heritage value of properties and, if necessary, initiate the designation process, before they may be demolished, and allowing properties to be relisted within an unlimited timeframe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council of the Town of Lincoln circulate this resolution to the municipalities of Ontario for endorsement and circulation to the Province.

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned,

Regards. Julie Kirkelos Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

c.c. All Municipalities of Ontario