

COMMUNICATION 136009

Received From: Niki Dwyer, MCIP RPP, Director of Development Services
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: February 18, 2025
Topic: Heritage Grant Program By-law Update

SUMMARY

In 2022, the Town of Carleton Place introduced a Heritage Grant program in accordance with Section 38 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The Town has annually allotted \$25,000 in the budget to provide owners of heritage properties with funds to offset the cost of restoring and repairing heritage designated properties.

During the 2025 budget deliberations, Council expressed interest in increasing the maximum grant value on a per occurrence basis while increasing the annual budgeted allotment to \$35,000.

BACKGROUND

In the three (3) years that the program has been operating, the Town has issued four (4) grants of \$5,000.00 each and received two (2) additional inquiries about the possibility of funding restoration work. In all cases, the applicants have submitted financial proposals that exceed the 50% contribution limit with some projects valued in excess of \$300,000.00.

COMMENTS

In consultation with the Heritage Committee, it is recommended that the maximum contributions of the program be increased to 50% of the cost of the project up to a maximum of \$15,000.00. This allows for at least two (2) large projects a year to be granted funding. Funding will continue to be offered on a first-come, first-served basis each calendar year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council pass a By-law to amend By-law 26-2022 to increase the maximum contribution of the Heritage Grant Program from \$5,000 to \$15,000.00 per project.