



2024 ANNUAL REPORT TO STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL

Committee Name: Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee

Date Submitted: December 6, 2024

1. Outline of accomplishments/projects completed in 2024:

Heritage Stratford awarded the Blue Plaque Award to the Jenny Trout Centre. The plaque presentation was in person at Knox Church and was attended by members of the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee.

Heritage Stratford is in the process of designating the Shakespearean gardens

Heritage Stratford has advised the change of the bicycle stands to a more antique style bicycle stand.

2. Summary of how the Advisory Committee's mandate in the Terms of Reference is reflected in the Committee's accomplishments/projects for 2024:

Heritage Stratford's mandate is to provide advice and assistance to owners and occupants of Stratford properties:

- Buildings within the heritage conservation district of Stratford, and in the heritage areas and corridors identified in the city's official plan
- Review of and advice on heritage alteration permit applications and sign variance applications
- Review and advise on other planning applications, designation of heritage buildings and other significant properties, the renovation of existing buildings, in order that their design is consistent with the general atmosphere and appearance of the surrounding area. Long term planning.

- Continued review of properties previously identified as having significant heritage value or interest.
- Continued to promote heritage awareness within the Stratford community through the blue plaque program (linking a property with a famous or important individual).
- Advocacy for heritage conservation.
- Presentation of James Anderson award for meritorious heritage efforts in the community

3. Summary of 2024 recommendations:

- Presentation of award for blue plaque programs to Council

4. Please summarize how your 2024 projects/plans have reflected the City's strategic priorities:

Heritage Stratford is a statutory committee under the Ontario heritage act, with the mandate to advise council on cultural heritage, including development of the downtown heritage conservation district, and to support the conservation of the city's heritage resources through public education, long term planning and promotion of heritage preservation.

The city's vision statement in the strategic priorities is a "vibrant city". Heritage resources make a significant contribution to the culture and livability of the city, and heritage Stratford projects and plans are intended to preserve and promote this aspect of the city.

The priority of "Strengthening our plans our plans, strengthening, and partnerships" includes making plans for collective priorities in heritage. Heritage Stratford projects related to promoting heritage conservation, including working with other groups and with city staff, is an example of a working partnership.

5. Comments regarding impact of COVID-19 on your Committee's operations in 2024:

No impact.