

DATE: December 14, 2017

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Prince George Heritage Commission

SUBJECT: Additions to the City of Prince George Heritage Register

ATTACHMENT(S): Overview of Heritage Tools
Statement of Significance for Additions to the Heritage Register
Property Owner Consent Form

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. **THAT the following properties, as identified by the City of Prince George Heritage Commission, be added to the Prince George Heritage Register:**
 - a. Knox United Church (1448 5th Avenue)
 - b. Taylor House (1872 10th Avenue)
 - c. Dogwood and Elm Street Trees
 - d. Vancouver Street Elms
 - e. Quinson Elementary School (251 South Ogilvie Street)

2. **THAT Council authorize Administration to proceed with the legislated notification in accordance with Section 598 of the *Local Government Act*.**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to request that Council add the following properties to the Prince George Heritage Register:

- Knox United Church (1448 5th Avenue)
- Taylor House (1872 10th Avenue)
- Dogwood and Elm Street Trees (Along Dogwood and Elm Street between 15th and 17th Avenue)
- Vancouver Street Elms (Along Vancouver Street between 4th and 10th Avenue)
- Quinson Elementary School (251 S Ogilvie Street)

BACKGROUND:

Overview of a Heritage Register

A Heritage Register is an official listing of properties with heritage value. Additions to the Heritage Register require a Council Resolution. The *Local Government Act* enables municipalities to protect heritage properties through various tools (see attached Overview of Heritage Tools). A Heritage Register

is a lower level of protection compared to other protection tools that are available through the *Local Government Act*.

Municipalities cannot reject applications to alter or demolish buildings based solely on the fact that those buildings are on the Heritage Register. The intent of a Heritage Register is to develop a formal listing of properties with heritage value. The Heritage Register allows the City to flag properties so that they can advise property owners about the historical value of their property and to allow the City to monitor alterations to heritage buildings. The Heritage Register also helps to create a sense of pride in our community's unique heritage.

Each property on the Heritage Register has a Statement of Significance (SOS). The SOS identifies key historical elements and provides a summary of design characteristics that should be retained or restored in order to respect the heritage value of the building. The *Local Government Act* requires that a Heritage Register indicate reasons why a property has heritage value and the SOS fulfills this requirement.

Existing Heritage Register

On December 3rd, 2007 the City of Prince George adopted a Heritage Register that contains the following four (4) sites:

- South Fort George School House (755 20th Avenue)
- Sixth Avenue Liquor Store (1188 6th Avenue)
- Federal Government Building (1293 3rd Avenue)
- Nechako Crossing (west of the confluence of Nechako and Fraser River)

On January 9th, 2016 the Council approved the addition of the following two (2) sites to the Heritage Register:

- Munro/Moffat House (153 Moffat Street)
- Pitman House (2387 McBride Crescent)

POLICY/REGULATORY ANALYSIS: Heritage Register Procedure

In 2016, the Heritage Commission developed a Heritage Register Procedure to guide the Commission in making additions to the Heritage Register. The Procedure sets out the timing and responsibilities for nominating properties to the register. The Procedures suggests the Commission recommend that Council authorize additions to the register annually.

Property Owners' Consent

The *Local Government Act* does not require the property owner's permission in order to add a property to the Heritage Register. However, Administration and Commission members consulted with property owners and are only recommending adding properties in cases where the property owner was in agreement with having their property listed on the Heritage Register.

Additions to the Heritage Register

On *December 14, 2017* the Heritage Commission passed the following motion recommending additions to the Heritage Register:

Moved by Mr. Elder, seconded by Ms. Ross, that the Prince George Heritage Commission RECOMMENDS to Council the addition of Knox United Church, the Taylor House, Dogwood and Elm Street Trees, Vancouver Street Trees and Quinson Elementary School to the Heritage Register. Carried Unanimously.

The Heritage Commission selected these properties because they are identifiable historical buildings that represent aesthetic, historical and spiritual significance to the community. More information specific to each properties heritage value is attached on the Statement of Significance (SOS). The property owners have confirmed that they consent to these properties being added to the Heritage Register (see attached Property Owner Consent Forms).

Notification to the Province and Property Owner

Section 598 of the *Local Government Act* requires a local government to notify the Provincial Heritage Minister and the owner of the heritage property within 30 days of adding a property to the Heritage Register. If Council supports the recommendation to add two properties to the Heritage Register, Administration will carry out these notifications.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Expanding the Heritage Register will achieve the Social Development Goals identified in the *2016 to 2018 Corporate Work Plan*. In particular, this initiative represents an opportunity to collaborate with partners and will enhance cultural richness, contribute to establishing an identity in our community and will build civic pride.

The expansion of the Heritage Register will also contribute to achieving the following policy objective identified in the *City of Prince George Official Community Plan, Bylaw No. 8686, 2011*:

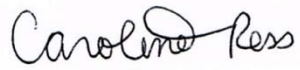
- Objective 7.4.1 Protect and foster the preservation of representative samples of natural and built heritage as well as key landscapes and neighbourhoods, and work to preserve, conserve, restore and promote awareness of this resource. Ensure that these are incorporated into long-term planning in a way that should balance preservation with growth and renewal through the prudent application of incentives and regulation.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

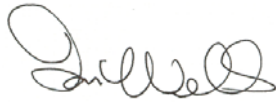
On June 27th, 2016, Administration and the Heritage Commission Chair presented to Council to explain the purpose of a Heritage Register and advise Council that the Heritage Commission would work to add properties to the Heritage Register. Throughout 2016, Administration worked with the Heritage Commission to develop a process for effectively managing the Heritage Register. The expansion of the Heritage Register aligns with Council's goals of enhancing cultural richness, establishing community identity and building civic pride.

This report recommends that Council pass a resolution to add the properties identified by the Prince George Heritage Commission to the Heritage Register.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Caroline Ross, Heritage Commission Chair

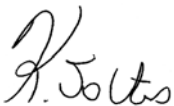


Ian Wells, General Manager Planning and Development



Rob Whitwham, General Manager Community Services

APPROVED:



Kathleen Soltis, City Manager
Meeting date: January 8, 2018