



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Adoption of *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*

Date:	January 15, 2008
To:	Toronto Preservation Board Planning and Growth Management Committee
From:	Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	Pg#080001

SUMMARY

This report recommends the adoption of *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* as the official standards and guidelines for planning, stewardship and conservation of heritage resources within the City of Toronto.

The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada is a benchmark document to guide the conservation approach to recognized heritage resources. Adopted standards and guidelines ensure consistent stewardship and transparent decision making for advisory groups, council, developers and staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Planning Division recommends that:

1. Council adopt *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* as the official document guiding planning, stewardship and conservation approach for all listed and designated heritage resources within the City of Toronto.
2. *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* be updated as new content is made available by the Parks Canada Agency or the Historic Places Initiative and its partners.

Implementation Points

The Standards and Guidelines will be consistently consulted as part of the development review process for heritage resources; in the approval of heritage incentives; and in the development of any new heritage programs or policies.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with the adoption of these recommendations.

DECISION HISTORY

The Phase One Heritage Management Plan, adopted in principle by Council in September 26 & 27, 2007, recommended the adoption of standards and guidelines to encourage consistent stewardship and conservation of heritage resources within the city.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In 1999, the Government of Canada began a Pan-Canadian partnership with all the provinces and territories of Canada to promote support and further the goal of heritage conservation. The result of this Pan-Canadian partnership is the Historic Places Initiative. A key objective of the Historic Places Initiative is to engage and support municipalities in heritage conservation programs and activities.

Through active participation of all federal, provincial and territorial partners, the Historic Places Initiative has created tools to assist all levels of government with heritage conservation programs. Among these tools is *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. The ‘Standards and Guidelines’ set out clear and consistent methodology for stewarding historic resources including the built environment, archaeological resources, cultural landscapes and others. The Standards and Guidelines present internationally accepted standards for all projects and a series of ‘recommended’ and ‘not recommended’ approaches for specific resource and material types.

Provincial and territorial governments across Canada, including the Ontario Government, have been encouraging municipalities to adopt the standards and guidelines and participate in the Historic Places Initiative.

COMMENTS

The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada is the first-ever pan-Canadian benchmark for heritage conservation practice in Canada. It offers results oriented guidance for sound decision making when planning for, intervening in and using historic places.

The Standards and Guidelines will ensure consistent stewardship and transparent decision making for advisory groups, council, developers and staff. Adoption of standards and guidelines is a recommendation of the Phase One Heritage Management Plan, adopted in principle by Council at its meeting of September 26 & 27, 2007.

The City of Toronto staff should update all copies of the Standards and Guidelines as new content is made available by the Parks Canada Agency or the Historic Places Initiative and its partners. Adoption of these standards and guidelines does not preclude the subsequent adoption of additional standards and/or guidelines written or recommended by city planning staff for specific or general heritage resource types and/or issues.

Staff and stakeholder workshops for understanding and applying *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* will be scheduled by staff in coordination with provincial and federal partners.

CONTACT

Denise Gendron
Manager
Heritage Preservation Service
416-338-1075
dgendron@toronto.ca

Scott Barrett
Senior Preservation Coordinator
Heritage Preservation Services
416-338-1083
sbarret3@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Ted Tyndorf
Chief Planner and Executive Director
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENTS

Parks Canada Agency, *The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, 2003.
<http://www.historicplaces.ca/nor-sta/request.aspx?req=index>

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