

Township of North Kawartha

280 Burleigh Street, PO Box 550, Apsley, ON K0L 1A0
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www.northkawartha.ca

Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council Members
From: Edward Hilton, Economic Development Officer
Date: November 3, 2025
Subject: Research into Potential Designation of Select Cultural Heritage Properties

Recommendation:

That Council authorize the Economic Development Officer (EDO) to undertake research regarding the potential designation of the following properties under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*:

1. 280 Old Apsley Road – The Sam Edgar Crypt
2. 3723 County Road 620 – Glen Alda Community Centre
3. Highway 28 (Haultain bridge at Eel's Creek) – Former timber and creosote-treated composite bridge structures and concrete abutments from the former bridge crossings

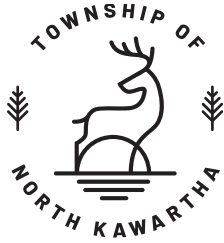
This research would be exploratory in nature and is not a formal notice of intention to designate at this time.

And further, that the EDO be authorized to provide draft recommendations on potential signage modifications or interpretive signage that may be appropriate for these properties as part of the Township's ongoing signage updates.

Background:

The Township of North Kawartha contains several sites of historical and cultural significance that contribute to its distinct rural character and community identity. At present, the Township does not have a Municipal Heritage Committee to assist in the identification of these heritage assets.

Accordingly, the EDO recommends that preliminary research be undertaken to assess the potential for heritage designation of three notable properties that reflect key aspects of the Township's cultural and community history. This research would involve a review of relevant archival records available through the North Kawartha library and



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collaboration with members of the Burleigh Road Historical Society, who have compiled extensive historical information about the community.

Designation under Part IV of the *Heritage Act* by municipal by-law (Section 29) recognizes and protects properties of cultural heritage value or interest, ensuring that future generations can appreciate their historical significance.

Analysis:

The proposed research would include:

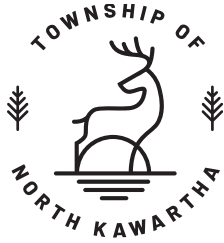
- Reviewing historical and archival information on the three identified properties.
- Assessing each property against the criteria under Ontario Regulation 9/06, which evaluates design/physical value, historical/associative value, and contextual value.
- Identifying opportunities for interpretive signage or public education that could enhance awareness and community pride.

The EDO considers that promoting and protecting cultural heritage sites is an important component of local economic development, particularly in rural communities where tourism, community identity, and a sense of place are key drivers of economic vitality. Highlighting the Township's historical assets through formal designation and improved signage can enhance visitor experiences, strengthen community pride, and contribute to storytelling efforts in tourism marketing and local education. Tourism remains a primary economic driver in North Kawartha. Heritage property designation of municipal properties strengthens Township branding and highlights its cultural heritage.

Financial Implications:

There are no immediate financial implications associated with this recommendation. Staff time will be used to conduct the initial research and bring forward findings for Council's review.

If Council later wishes to proceed with formal designation or interpretive signage, cost estimates will be prepared and presented at that time.



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Strategic and/or Other Plans:

Strategic Plan

1. Governance – Provide quality community programs and services

In Consultation With:

Connie Parent, Clerk

Attachment:

None