

Memo

To: Mayor Burton and Members of Council

From: Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst, Supervisor, Heritage Conservation, Planning Services

CC: Kirk Biggar, Manager of Policy Planning & Heritage, Planning Services
Gabe Charles, Director, Planning Services

Date: June 7, 2024

Subject: Update on Bill 200

Comments

This memo provides Council with an update on Bill 200, *Homeowner Protection Act*, 2024.

The Province's Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism proposed amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* through Bill 200. The bill received its first reading on May 27 and consultation was to close on June 26. On June 6, the bill received Royal Assent.

The bill provides for an extension to the timeframe for issuing a notice of intention to designate for listed properties before they must be removed from their municipal heritage register. The extension gives municipalities until January 1, 2027, whereas the previous deadline was January 1, 2025.

Recently, the town submitted a request to the Province to provide a five-year extension for this deadline until January 1, 2030, a request also made by numerous other municipalities. While the proposed two-year extension is not as beneficial as a five-year extension, staff is supportive of the extension.

Bill 200 also includes rules to provide clarity on how voluntarily removing a listed property ahead of the legislated timelines would impact the listing rules. Staff has no concerns with these additional rules as they do not impact the town's heritage register.

The town's Planning Services Department provided comments to the Environmental Registry Office on these proposed amendments prior to Royal Assent, supporting the two-year extension for listed properties.

Please contact Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst, Supervisor of Heritage Conservation, Planning Services, with any questions regarding Bill 200 and its impact on the town's heritage register.