

## Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Bazinet and Members of Council  
**Report From:** Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk  
**Meeting Date:** April 28, 2025  
**Subject:** Request for Heritage Designation – 90 St. Patrick Street  
**Attachment(s):** 1) Statement of Significance – 90 St. Patrick Street

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### **Recommendation:**

That Goderich Town Council consider the following motion for adoption:

That at the request of the property owner, that Goderich Town Council directs staff to commence the Part IV heritage process to designate 90 St. Patrick Street.

### **Report Summary:**

That Council authorize staff to commence the process to designate 90 St. Patrick Street as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

### **Background and Analysis:**

Under the Ontario Heritage Act, municipalities can pass by-laws to formally designate properties of cultural heritage value or interest. Formal designation of heritage properties is one way of publicly acknowledging a property's heritage value to a community. At the same time, designation helps to ensure the conservation of these important places for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

#### **Advantages of Designation:**

- Designated buildings have been shown to retain their value during periods of economic downturn better than non-designated properties.
- Grants, interest-free and interest-reduced loans are available to owners of designated properties. Tax relief for heritage projects is available.
- Conservation of heritage properties has less impact on the environment than new construction in terms of energy required, and landfill and recycling of material.
- Conserving a heritage property is a sustainable practice which is crucial for economic competitiveness.
- Designating properties and/or restoring heritage buildings can increase tourism and create employment and income within the community.

- Cultural or natural heritage features are community assets which give identity and distinctiveness to the community. Designation of these features recognizes how much the community appreciates these unique features.
- Designation provides protection to the property from unsympathetic alteration or demolition. Alteration and even demolition can still occur, but the designation agreement provides more time for appropriate alternatives to be discussed.

Due to changes to the Province's Ontario Heritage Act that may make it more difficult for property owners to receive heritage designation, staff sent letters to owners of properties that were recognized as having important heritage characteristics that were potentially eligible for a heritage designation, asking for consideration of the same. As a result, the property owner of 90 St. Patrick demonstrated an interest to designate. Discussion took place at the Municipal & Marine Heritage Committee and Chair Vicky Culbert and Member Barry Page conducted research to present a draft Statement of Significance for the Committee to review at their January 29, 2025, meeting. The following motion was subsequently adopted at the meeting:

That the Municipal & Marine Heritage Committee approve the Statement of Significance for 90 St. Patrick Street and refer to Council for their consideration of moving forward with the heritage designation process.

As per the Ontario Heritage Act requirements, if Council approves the request to move forward with the designation process, a notice of intention to designate will be provided to the property owner and will be advertised in the Goderich Sun and Goderich Signal Star. A By-Law would subsequently come forward at a future Council meeting for adoption.

**Linkage:**

- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #2: Welcoming and Caring Community

**Financial Impacts and/or Source of Funding:**

The financial impact of this process will be the advertising costs in the Goderich Sun and Goderich Signal Star newspapers.

**Consulted With:**

Municipal & Marine Heritage Committee

**Approved By:**

Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer

Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk