



Township Heritage Strategic Plan **“Where our past meets the future”**

Preamble

In the Township of Scugog residents and stakeholders have a significant interest in the preservation of heritage resources. There are many partners that place high value on heritage. To this, the Township of Scugog has incorporated heritage into official plans, master plans, visioning sessions and developed many other heritage initiatives which lead the community to the need for an Heritage Strategic Plan.

This is an important document as it will help heritage in our community move successfully into the future by identifying key areas of focus and outlining the activities that will help us build on each of the these areas. The Township is focusing on four strategic themes:

- Preserve, Protect and Enhance our Heritage
- Prosperous Heritage Tourism Economy
- Interactive, Healthy, and Educational Heritage Experience
- Responsive, Effective Service

A scan of heritage initiatives in the township shows us that:

- Lake Scugog Historical Society formed in 1969
- Scugog Shores Historical Museum founded permanently in 1972
- Town Hall 1873 was designated in 1975
- Palmer Park was designated in 1986
- Head Church was designated in 1990
- Landfall Farm was designated in 1992
- Heritage Scugog Committee was formed in 2001
- 15238 Old Simcoe designated in 2005
- Township of Scugog integrated into the corporate structure the Scugog Shores Museum in 2006
- Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Master Plan - 2007
- Municipal Heritage Register was adopted in 2008
- Blackstock Cenotaph was restored in 2008

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- Township of Scugog purchases historic Currie Grain Elevator in 2009
- Scugog Shores Heritage Centre and Archives opens in 2009
- New Federal heritage recognition plaque in Palmer Park in 2009
- Roy E. Carter Park commemorated in 2009

What is Heritage?

Community heritage resources are the physical and cultural elements that make each community what it is. They are the tangible embodiments of intangible historical, cultural, aesthetic and social values. They give a community its particular sense of time and place, and they are the cultural expressions of what that place is.

Heritage planning is about the management of these elements for the benefit of present and future generations and it is about the management of continuity within a context of change.

Heritage value refers to the aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance or significance for past, present or future generations. (Canadian Register of Historic Places)

Cultural heritage is everything from the past that a community values in the present and wishes to pass on to the future. (Ministry of Culture)

Our heritage tells us who we are, where we have come from and what we have accomplished. Heritage is a source of strength and confidence that puts the changes of society into perspective and helps us build a better future. (Ministry of Culture, Strengthening Ontario's Heritage)

A Heritage Strategic Plan is a pro-active, practical, easily understood plan of action that is based on a participatory process and which presents a community consensus about its heritage.

Heritage includes any of the following:

- Museum Village
- Heritage Centre
- Archives
- Historical Cemeteries

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- Cenotaphs –Blackstock & Port Perry
- Monuments – Palmer & Cartwright Pioneer
- Historic Community Halls
- Heritage Plaques
- Heritage Awards
- Heritage Registry
- Scugog Sports Hall of Fame
- Archaeological sites
- Fairgrounds
- Education –walking tours, driving tours, workshops
- Municipal Heritage Wall
- Oral history and stories

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Heritage Mission

The purpose of Scugog heritage is to preserve, research, interpret and exhibit items that will serve to illustrate and promote the history and prehistory of the Municipality and the Lake Scugog area.

Heritage Vision

To provide each resident and visitor with a better understanding of Scugog and rural Ontario history and our First Nation Heritage.

Heritage Mandate

To showcase vibrant historical museums, places and stories that engage our community, preserve, protect, and enhance our heritage and educate our visitors.

Township’s Strategic Themes

1. Preserve, Protect and Enhance our Heritage

Strategic Objectives:

- 1.1 To develop and monitor a heritage strategic plan.
- 1.2 To ensure that heritage considerations, including the protection of our heritage, are considered in all local decision-making.
- 1.3 To encourage improvements and care to museums, archives, historic cemeteries, archaeological sites, historic sites, natural heritage, built heritage and heritage districts through planning, protection, design, restoration, or conservation.
- 1.4 Identify sources of funding that enhance municipal funding through partnerships.
- 1.5 To maintain a Register of Heritage Properties and Sites within the Township and seek out new sites.
- 1.6 To plan for the appropriate maintenance and/or restoration of Township Heritage assets.

2. Prosperous Heritage Tourism Economy

Strategic Objectives:

- 2.1 To increase and enhance the heritage experience through variety and diversity in the Township.
- 2.2 To create a sense of place and appreciation/connection of the community through heritage.
- 2.3 To maintain and enhance our historic downtown and vibrant commercial areas to provide tourism opportunities and, services through cultural amenities.
- 2.4 To promote the Township’s strategic location, heritage and pre-history in the Greater Toronto Area and Trent Severn Waterway for economic development purposes.
- 2.5 To stimulate and inspire a sense of discovery to a visitor through heritage initiatives, Museums and stories.
- 2.6 To develop joint marketing strategies with other groups and organizations.

3 Interactive, Healthy, and Educational Heritage

Strategic Objectives:

- 3.1 To provide a broad range of educational, cultural and heritage opportunities to meet the needs of our residents, visitors, and schools.
- 3.2 To make the Museum Village and other publicly owned heritage sites more accessible.
- 3.3 To provide for a moderate scale of growth of the Museums collections that is in keeping with Township’s heritage and pre-history.

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- 3.4 To develop a collaborative relationship with educators in Scugog and Durham.
- 3.5 To encourage research opportunities and the historic knowledge of our community.
- 3.6 To encourage and promote volunteerism at the Scugog Shores Museums, and Heritage Scugog.
- 3.7 To preserve, enhance and support the cultural heritage of the community through our connections with the Lake Scugog Historical Society, corporations, seniors, youth, service clubs, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and the community at large.

4 Responsive, Effective Service

Strategic Objectives:

- 4.1 To provide leadership and advocacy on heritage issues of importance to our community.
- 4.2 To foster excellence in responsive customer service in Heritage facilities and programs; and expand opportunities for communication with the community.
- 4.3 To engage the community in ongoing input on heritage programming.
- 4.4 To stay current of new technologies and museum heritage trends.