



January 31, 2013

City Council Committee Report

TO: Mayor and Council

**FR: Tara Rickaby, Planning Administrator and
Lori Nelson, Museum Director on behalf of Heritage Kenora**

RE: Addition of property to Municipal Registry (of Properties of cultural heritage significance or interest) - 321 First Avenue South and 318 Third Street South

Recommendation:

That the Council of the City of Kenora enters properties described as 321 First Avenue South – Water Lot RP1965 PCL 3592, and 318 Third Street South - PLAN 3 BLK 2 LOT 54 into the municipal registry of properties of cultural heritage significance or interest; and further

That the appropriate by-law be passed for this purpose.

Background:

In December of 2005, Council passed a by-law to establish a municipal heritage committee. This Committee has identified several local heritage properties, four of which have been designated at different times in the past (and added to the municipal registry), because of their significant heritage values.

The municipal register is the first step required in the designation process, although because a property is placed on the registry, does not necessarily indicate that it will be designated as a heritage building. While the legislation does not require municipalities to list properties on the register, listing is strongly recommended. A comprehensive register of cultural heritage properties, including both designated and listed properties, has the following benefits:

1. The register recognizes properties of cultural heritage value in the community.
2. The register promotes knowledge and enhances an understanding of the community's cultural heritage.
3. The register is a planning document that should be consulted by municipal decision makers when reviewing development proposals or permit applications. The register provides easily accessible information about cultural heritage properties for land-use planners, property owners, developers, the tourism industry, educators and the general public.
4. The register provides interim protection for listed property (see below).

Changes to *Ontario's Building Code Act*, which took effect January 1, 2006, brought new, accelerated building permit review timeframes. These include, for example, 10 days for a house and 20 days for a large building.

Building permit review timeframes allow municipalities and municipal heritage committees little time to assess properties facing demolition or alteration that are potentially of cultural heritage value to the community.

Amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* made in June 2006 address this issue. These changes now provide interim protection for listed properties (see subsections 27 (3)-(5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*). Owners of listed properties must give the council of the municipality at least 60 days notice of their intention to demolish or remove a building or structure on the property.

This allows time for the municipality to decide whether to begin the designation process to give long term protection to the property.

On June 12, 2006, Council passed by-law number 84-2006, establishing a register of properties situated in the municipality, recommended by the Kenora Heritage Committee as being of cultural value or interest be established;

- In order to ensure that its cultural significance is recognized, Heritage Kenora adopted the following resolution regarding The Blue Heron and a private home in the Harbourtown Centre:

Motion: Moved by Lisa Moncrief, Seconded by Rory McMillan that the following properties be recommended as additions to the Municipal Registry: The Blue Heron (321 First Avenue South) and the Val Canfield home (318 Third Street South). Carried.

The property on Third Street South is being considered based on a request by the Owner. The property on First Ave South is being considered because Heritage Kenora has identified the property as a property of cultural heritage and interest. Permission was received from both owners.

Budget: N/A

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements: Property owners, Heritage Kenora, City Clerk, Planning Administrator, Chief Building Official