



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2025, 5:00 pm

Location: Essex Municipal Building, 33 Talbot Street South

Present: Connie Clarkson - Chair
Richard Kokovai - Vice-Chair
Perry Basden - Committee Member
Jacqueline Baldwin - Committee Member
Councillor - Rodney Hammond, Ward 4 - Committee Member
Laurie Kowtiuk - Committee Member
Councillor Jason Matyi, Ward 3 - Committee Member

Absent: Linda Matyi - Committee Member
Grant Peters - Committee Member

Also Present: Marsha Buchta, Recording Secretary
Cheyenne Mailloux, Heritage and Planning Intern

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Councillor Jason Matyi arrived at 5:09 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest noted at this time.

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

4.1 Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting Agenda for May 29, 2025

EMHC25-05-21

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Rodney Hammond, Ward 4 Councillor

That the published agenda for the May 29, 2025, Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Minutes for April 24, 2025

EMHC25-05-22

Moved By Rodney Hammond, Ward 4 Councillor

Seconded By Perry Basden

That the minutes of the Essex Municipal Heritage Committee meeting held April 24, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. Unfinished Business

EMHC25-05-23

Moved By Rodney Hammond, Ward 4 Councillor

Seconded By Laurie Kowtiuk

That all reports and updates of the items listed in Agenda 6. Unfinished Business be received.

Carried

6.1 Greater Marketing and Public Education about Heritage - Ongoing

6.1.1 Information session Partners of Community Heritage Ontario Region (PCH)

Ms. Cheyenne Mailloux reported that Member Peters had provided administration with additional information on the Community Engagement at Canadian Heritage (PCH) fund. the Building Communities through Arts and Heritage program (BCAH), and the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund (CCSF). Member Peters suggested that administration reach out to PCH, BCAH, and CCSF to set up an information session on available grant opportunities for heritage organizations located in the Town of Essex. Ms. Mailloux reported that administration has reached out to schedule a meeting; however, nothing has been set up as of now.

6.2 Official Plan Update - Ongoing

Mrs. Marsha Buchta reported that administration hosted a Public Information Session (PIC) on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 5:30 pm, at the Harrow and Colchester South Community Centre (243 McAfee Street). The PIC was held to summarize comments that were received from citizens and stakeholders on the proposed Official Plan and Colchester Secondary Plan.

6.3 Heritage Grant Program - Ongoing

6.4 Heritage Designation and Interpretive Plaque Program - Ongoing

Ms. Mailloux asked the committee if there are any areas or designated properties within the Town of Essex that they would like to have plaque created for. Ms. Mailloux advised the committee that the Grace Baptist Church (120

Talbot Street North) building was reaching its 150th anniversary of being built in October of this year.

Vice-Chair Kokovai asked administration to look into the possibility of plaquing the Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village, noting they may be celebrating a significant anniversary soon.

6.5 Listing and Designating Properties and Heritage Districts - Ongoing

Chair Clarkson asked administration to explain what constitutes a Heritage District. Ms. Mailloux advised that under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act, areas that display significant cultural heritage value can be designated as Heritage Conservation Districts to ensure greater protection of historic areas.

Member Basden reported that areas, such as the one surrounding the Colchester Schoolhouse (195 Bagot Street), Christ Church (190 Bagot Street), and Christ Church Cemetery (0 Sullivan Street), could be considered a Heritage Conservation District under the Ontario Heritage Act.

6.5.1 Rio Theatre

No update at this time.

6.5.2 136 County Road 50 W

Ms. Mailloux advised committee members that a summary of the findings on 136 County Road 50 had been sent to committee members to review for a future meeting. She noted that more research is being done on the property, however stated that the research done now does not have to be extensive for the listing process.

6.5.3 146 Adelaide Street

Ms. Mailloux advised committee members that a summary of the findings on 146 Adelaide Street had been sent to committee members to review for a future meeting. She noted that more research is being done on the property; however, stated that the research done now does not have to be extensive for the listing process.

Chair Clarkson reported that she was able to speak to the property owners and found that the property may have been owned by family of Mrs. Martin, Paul Marin Sr.'s wife, before being used by Paul Martin Sr. Member Basden suggested reaching out to the Amherstburg Marsh Collective to see if they could provide us with more information on the property. Member Baldwin suggested looking into the family of Mrs. Martin and her possible familial connection to Mr. T. B. Adams of Harrow.

6.5.4 Heritage Inventory for Essex Centre and Harrow Highway Commercial Mixed-Use Corridor and other general properties

Ms. Mailloux presented committee members with a new Considered Heritage Inventory, that outlines properties throughout the Town of Essex that may have potential cultural heritage value. She advised that this project came out of the newly proposed Highway Commercial Mixed-Use corridors in Essex Centre and Harrow, as these areas change the permitted land-uses in those areas and could impact properties that may display heritage value.

The Considered Heritage Inventory has been divided into six (6) sections, including Essex Centre, Harrow, Colchester North, Colchester South, Essex Centre Highway Commercial, and Harrow Highway Commercial. She suggested that the committee work on researching some of the properties included in this Considered Heritage Inventory and add any properties that they feel should be included. She advised that the research in the Considered Heritage Inventory does not have to be extensive, suggesting that they just look for the year built, prominent owners, and an interesting fact.

6.6 Cemeteries

6.7 Studies and Master Plans - Ongoing

6.7.1 Heritage Toolkit / Community Heritage Ontario study

Published earlier this month and sent to committee.

6.8 Heritage Walking Tour and Digital Component - Ongoing

6.8.1 Digital Jane's Walk

Ms. Mailloux advised that the organizers of the Windsor-Essex Jane's Walk Festival will be releasing a recording of the Janes Walk on their website soon. She stated that administration will look into the Town creating a digital version of the Jane's Walk, so that the information can reach residents of the Town of Essex.

6.9 Cultural Master Plan - Ongoing

6.10 Historically Significant Name Registry - Ongoing

6.11 Cultural Heritage, Indigenous History - Ongoing

6.11.1 National Indigenous History Month / National Indigenous Peoples Day - Saturday, June 21, 2025

Ms. Mailloux advised that the month of June is Indigenous History Month and that Saturday, June 21, 2025, is National Indigenous Peoples Day. She asked committee members to suggest social media posts that can be done by the Town throughout the month of June and events that can be promoted.

Councillor Hammond advised that Caldwell First Nation will be hosting their 1st Powwow on August 9th and 10th, 2025. He suggested that we look into supporting it.

6.12 Barn Quilts - Ongoing

6.12.1 Barn Quilt Sponsorship Update

Vice-Chair Kokovai advised that he has met with a potential sponsor, however, will have more to report at a future meeting.

7. Adjournment

EMHC25-05-24

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Rodney Hammond, Ward 4 Councillor

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Carried

8. Future Meetings

Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Harrow Arena Community Room, 243
McAffee Street, Harrow

Chair

Recording Secretary