

To: Chief Administrative Officer **Date:** December 20, 2021
From: Mike Dickinson, Manager of Long Range Planning & Special Projects
Subject: **Mission Community Heritage Commission Work Plan for 2022**

Recommendation(s)

That Council approve the Mission Community Heritage Commission Work Plan, prepared by the Manager of Long Range Planning & Special Projects report dated December 20, 2021.

Purpose

This report provides Council with a summary of the Mission Community Heritage Commission's accomplishments over the past year and presents the Commission's Work Plan for 2022 for Council consideration of approval.

Background

At the end of each calendar year, the Commission's Terms of Reference require that an annual work plan for the upcoming year be presented to Council for their consideration and approval.

The Commission was able to achieve monthly meetings with full quorum this year, with the exception of no meetings held during the summer (July and August).

While the Commission membership is still low, the City has been actively recruiting and received new members throughout the year. Current membership sits at seven members which will enable the Commission to work on the projects indicated in the 2022 Work Plan, as described in Attachment A.

Councillor Crawford continues as a Council representative, and Councillor Herar became an alternate Council representative on the Commission commencing in 2021.

Discussion

Mission Community Heritage Commission Accomplishments of 2021:

The following provides a summary of the work the Commission undertook in 2021:

- Collaboration with the Historical Society for a newspaper article for the *February 2021 Heritage Week*.
- An exercise to better understand the *Downtown Design Guidelines*.
- Funded a grant application submitted for the *On the Spot* online App.
- Reviewed the Terms of Reference.
- Workshop held on March 3, 2021 with Heritage Consultant, Donald Luxton. The outcome of the workshop identified the following projects for the Commission to select a few projects for inclusion in the final list of projects to be completed over the next two years:

- identify Heritage Sites;
- add more historical sites to the current Heritage Register and provide clarification on the process;
- identify century houses constructed in the early 1900s and build a corresponding list;
- Commemoration and Interpretation of Historic Sites:
 - story stones placed in public spaces relevant to the stories being told; and
 - create points of interest that could be identified using QR code technology along with a sticker or plaque on the historical site.
- Commission members attended webinars held online through Heritage BC.
- Online project started through *Historypin.org*.
- Council's request for recognition of the Komagata Maru which entailed ongoing community engagement by the Chair.
- Meetings with Parks, Recreation and Culture staff on current story boards under revision and replacement.
- New Commission members for 2021: Michael Nenn, Shelley Carter, Jeffrey Vineyard, and Charlotte Lightburn.
- Retired members for 2021: Jennifer Penner, Matt Brackley, and Loretta White.
- Funded a student to work with Mission Archives with the directive to complete the inventory for the Heritage Register.
- Waterfront Revitalization consultation process beginning.
- A discussion with the Cultural Resource Commission to discuss common interests and possible activities that could be undertaken by the two Commissions, and to organize a social gathering to initiate this discussion.
- A discussion regarding the possible use of Heritage Revitalization Permits for development applications that include properties with heritage buildings that merit protection.
- Commission's endorsement for the retention of community names, Silverdale and Silvermere, for future neighbourhood planning.

Mission Community Heritage Commission's 2022 Work Plan includes:

- Monthly meetings, which are open to the public.
- Continue to advertise for and actively recruit for new members through the City's website and social media accounts.
- Renew memberships in local, provincial, and federal organizations that support heritage.
- Continue with the setting up of heritage sites on the *Historypin.org* website.
- Continue with review of Terms of Reference and present a staff report to Council with an updated/revised version.
- Continue with the projects identified through the workshop with Donald Luxton listed as:
 - Identify heritage sites:

- add more historical sites to the current Heritage Register and clarification on the process; and
 - Identify century houses constructed in the early 1900s and build a corresponding list.
- Commemoration and Interpretation of Historic Sites:
 - place story stones in public spaces relevant to the stories being told; and
 - create points of interest that could be identified using QR code technology along with a sticker or plaque on the historical site.
- In recognizing that updating the Strategic Plan was a huge undertaking, the Commission changed focus to smaller more manageable projects identified during at the 2021 Workshop before embarking on a more comprehensive planning process. The projects identified in the 2021 Workshop correlate with the following Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives:
 - Goal 4 - Document key heritage resources in collaboration with local heritage groups.
 - Objective 1: Identify important resources and areas requiring significant research.
 - Objective 3: Implement the process for developing a Heritage Register.
 - Goal 6 – Share knowledge of the past through public education programs and activities.
 - Objective 3: Utilize electronic communication resources.
 - Objective 7: Develop activities that enhance heritage awareness.

Financial Implications

Work started in 2021 for the Mission Community Heritage Commission will continue into 2022 and is reflected in the Commission's Proposed 2022 Budget (Attachment A).

Communication

No communication action is required.

Summary and Conclusion

The Mission Community Heritage Commission has initiated projects in 2021, as identified during a workshop led by heritage consultant Donald Luxton. In 2022, the Commission will continue with implementing these projects that include identifying heritage sites and adding these to the current Heritage Register, as well as commemorating and interpreting historic sites with story boards and story stones placed in public spaces.

Report Prepared by: Mike Dickinson, Manager of Long Range Planning
Reviewed by: Dan Sommer, Director of Development Services
Approved for Inclusion: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment(s)

Attachment A: Mission Community Heritage Commission 2022 Budget and Meeting Schedule