

May 20, 2026

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
56 Wellesley St. W  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2E7

Sent via email: [graham.mcgregor@ontario.ca](mailto:graham.mcgregor@ontario.ca)

Dear: Hon. Graham McGregor

**Re: Grey Highlands Resolution 2026-341**

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the May 20, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

***That Council receive the Heritage Grey Highlands Committee receive HGHC2026-13 Resolution and the Town of Lincoln Resolution PED-2026-22 requesting the Province of Ontario to extend the deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties; and Whereas amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and Whereas the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and Whereas municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and Whereas the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and Whereas many municipalities, including the Municipality of Grey Highlands, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake***

**The Municipality of Grey Highlands**

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***property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and***

***Whereas municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and***

***Whereas Ontario municipalities are now in a municipal election year which may further impact progress related to reviewing and processing property designations; now***

***Therefore be it resolved that:***

***That Council respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and***

***The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and***

***This resolution be circulated to Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Graham McGregor, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Paul Vickers, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.***

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

*Amanda Fines-VanAlstine*

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine  
Manager of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk  
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack  
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Paul Vickers,  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario,  
The Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and  
All Ontario municipalities

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