



# AGENDA HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

River Plate Room

65 Harwood Avenue South

Meeting No. HAC-2024-09

*Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:  
[accessibility@ajax.ca](mailto:accessibility@ajax.ca) or 905-619-2529 ext. 3347*

In-person attendance is permitted at this meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee. Electronic participation is permitted, on request, pursuant to the Committee’s Terms of Reference.

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**1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement**

**2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

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**7. Update from Council**

**4. Presentation/Discussion Items**

**4.1. Neighbourhood One Potential Heritage Conservation District [30 minutes]** (M. Sawchuck)

**4.2. Ajax GO Station Heritage Display Updates [15 minutes]** (M. Sawchuck)

**4.3. Hicksite/Brown Cemetery – University of Toronto Final Report [5 minutes]** (M. Sawchuck)  
.....circulated separately

**4.4. Pickering Village Heritage Conservation District Banner Replacements [5 minutes]** (M. Sawchuck)

**4.5. DIL Walking Tour – World Town Planning Day [5 minutes]** (M. Sawchuck)

**4.6. Council Presentation – Draft Practice Run [25 minutes]** (M. Daniels & T. Matthews)

**5. Ajax Public Library Archives Update** (L. McEwan)

**8. Correspondence**

**9. Other Business**

**10. Adjournment**



MINUTES  
Heritage Advisory Committee

October 2, 2024

River Plate Room, Ajax Town Hall

HAC-2024-07

**Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:**

[sarah.moore@ajax.ca](mailto:sarah.moore@ajax.ca) or 905-619-2529 ext. 3347

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Committee Members: Bruce Balsdon  
Neil Burnett  
Stephen White  
Paul Hébert, Co-Chair  
Jeff Wood  
Trish Matthews, Co-Chair  
Mitchell Daniels  
Pam Pryjma  
Tina Kessler

Guests: Thomas Meulendyk, University of Toronto

Staff: Sarah Moore, Legislative Specialist  
Michael Sawchuck, Senior Policy Planner  
Laura McEwan, Archives Services Librarian - Library Services (online)

Regrets: Councillor Rob Tyler Morin, Hélène Bellerose

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**1. Call to Order**

Co-Chair Hébert called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Co-Chair Mathews read the Land Acknowledgement.

**2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Moved By: S. White  
Seconded By: N. Burnett

That the September 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee be approved.  
CARRIED

**4. Presentation/Discussion**

**4.1. Hicksite/Brown Cemetery – Surface Survey Mapping**

Thomas Meulendyk, University of Toronto Teaching Laboratory Technician, presented the detailed findings of recent surface survey mapping of the Hicksite/Brown Cemetery. He presented information on the goals for the work conducted: to generate inventory of burials to aid Town with upcoming restoration efforts; to determine the location of the former Quaker Meeting House, and to provide University of Toronto Scarborough Campus students with enriching research, work-study and volunteering opportunities in geophysical and archaeological field surveying, mapping, data processing and interpretation. He shared satellite photos of the site, noting that field work commenced in February 2024.

Mr. Meulendyk presented information on Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), noting that 3.5 km of GPR data was collected through the project. He demonstrated depth slice and presented lateral continuity of anomalies, indicating burials. He noted that 169 probable burials were identified, 86 of which are unmarked. He noted that no indication of the Quaker meeting house was found on the cemetery property during the surveys and presented evidence that its actual location was on the property to the south.

The proposed next steps were noted to include LIDAR drone imaging and student research into Quaker burial practices.

Members of the Committee asked questions relating to findings, technologies utilized during the surveys, burial depths and accuracy of cemetery boundaries in relation to historic mapping. Members expressed interest in a copy of the student report on Quaker burials once completed. Mr. Meulendyk responded to questions.

On behalf of the Committee, Co-Chair Hébert thanked Mr. Meulendyk and acknowledged the work of the staff, students, volunteers and faculty of the UTSC Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences.

#### **4.2. Friends Cemetery – Heritage Tour Results**

M. Sawchuck shared a summary of feedback received from the Committee's Friends Cemetery Heritage Tour. He noted the majority of participants were attending a heritage tour for the first time and were Ajax residents. Of those who completed the survey, all would participate again in the future, all enjoyed the event, and all learned something new. M. Sawchuck acknowledged the work completed by Members to put the tour together. Members shared additional comments and suggestions for future events, and tour locations, such as engaging the PROBUS clubs of Ajax, and to expand outreach for future tours.

#### **4.3. Historical Plaque – DIL Supervisors' Apartments**

M Sawchuck provided a revised version of the proposed plaque wording incorporating Members' edits and suggestions. With consensus, the plaque wording was approved.

#### **4.4. Ajax GO Station – Heritage Display Updates**

As follow-up from the September Meeting discussion, M. Sawchuck informed the Committee that funding may be available for the heritage signage project at the Ajax GO Station, if completed by the end of 2024. Due to short timelines, it was recommended to use existing content in place of creating new. He shared photos of the existing timeline at Pat Bayly Square,

noting some required updates. M. Daniels informed the Committee that Metrolinx would like the content also provided in French. It was suggested that the unveiling and timeline tie-in with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Town of Ajax. M. Daniels and M. Sawchuck noted they would follow up with Metrolinx and communications staff and report back at the next meeting.

#### **4.5. Ontario Heritage Conference – Re-cap**

M. Daniels provided a summary of his attendance at the 2024 Ontario Heritage Conference in Gravenhurst, ON. He shared information on activities from other Committees, online content as an accompaniment to plaques, discussion on the impacts of changes to the Ontario Heritage Act, provision of a public database of heritage properties, and a technology and museum workshop which explored use of the “Field Mouse” app to create detailed story maps. He noted that the 2025 Conference will be held in Price Edward County, June 19-25, 2025.

#### **4.6. Committee Report to Council**

S. Moore reminded the Committee of the presentation scheduled for the November 18, 2024 Council meeting. Members discussed who would present on behalf of the Committee. M. Daniels volunteered to speak as past-Chair. T. Matthews volunteered to assist with preparation. A draft is anticipated to be presented at the November 6 Committee Meeting for Members’ review. S. Moore will confirm the time limit the Committee has to present.

### **5. Ajax Public Library Archives Update**

None.

### **6. Correspondence**

None.

### **7. Update from Council**

None.

### **8. Other Business**

P. Pryjma noted that, on behalf of the Committee, the application for recognition of War of 1812 veteran, George Washington Post was submitted to the War Graves Project.

N. Burnett informed the Committee that he had conducted research on the Elizabeth St. Cemetery, which uncovered that Sarah Gordon (Gordon House) was the grandmother of Antarctic Explorer Ernest Shackleton, which is inaccurate. He cautioned Members that crowd-sourced resources are not always reliable.

### **9. Adjournment**

Moved By: J. Wood  
Seconded By: S. White

That the October 2, 2024 Meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee be adjourned. (8:28 p.m.)

CARRIED