

# Council Policy



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## Historic & Cultural Heritage Policy

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**Policy Number: PED92/2019**

**Approval Date: April 9, 2019**

**Supersedes Policy: CPS247/2017**

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### SECTION A

#### 1.0 Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to recognize the value and importance of both historical and cultural aspects specific the Morinville community by:

- 1.1 Providing avenues for the community, its residents and administration to review, evaluate, acknowledge, celebrate and conserve heritage buildings, sites, artifacts, cultural events and activities that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Morinville's history and its specific cultural heritage.
- 1.2 The Town will support activities that cultivate Morinville's history and its cultural heritage by:
  - a) Ensuring history and cultural heritage are recognized for future development planning, Town operations and its communications.
  - b) Engaging and supporting the community through collaboration of events and activities that preserve, educate and the celebration of history and culture.

#### 2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 **Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)** - means Chief Administrative Officer appointed by Council, or designate by the CAO.
- 2.2 **Community** - is considered in the broadest sense to include but not limited to all residents, schools, places of worship, not for profit organizations and businesses, as well as any other recognized organized group in relation to a historical or cultural initiative.

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- 2.3 **Conservation** - all actions or processes that are aimed at safeguarding the character defining elements of cultural resources so as to retain its historical and cultural value. This may involve “preservation”, “rehabilitation”, “restoration” or a combination of actions or processes as a means of going forward.
- 2.4 **Council** - Means the duly elected officials of Morinville.
- 2.5 **Culture** - is defined as both the facilities and practices necessary in the expression of social, economic and artistic values of the community. Culture is the act of bringing people together to celebrate, recreate and communicate as a larger community. Culture refers to, but it is not restricted to all forms and tradition of dance, drama, theatre, music, visual arts, crafts, design, written and oral literature, all of which serve as a means for individual and collective creativity and expression through performance, execution, presentation exhibition and study. Ongoing cultural activities preserve the social technology of the community as it develops over time.
- 2.6 **Heritage** - It may include but not limited to: Built environments, buildings, sites of historic events, and works of the past that represent historic skill, behavior and patterns of life that may encompass the Morinville’s history.
- 2.7 **Heritage Planning** - the identification, inventory, survey, research and recording of resources that have historical or cultural significance for the community.
- 2.8 **History** - is defined as buildings, art or artifacts that preserve the social and cultural identities of past generations. Through preservation of the identities of people, places and things that represent historical significance of the community or have made significant contribution to the identification of Morinville to the outside world.
- 2.9 **Historical Designation** - Designation is a form of legal protection that helps to recognize and protect historic places. The “Historical Resources Act” empowers the Government of Alberta to designate a site as a Provincial Historic Resource.
- 2.10 **Historic Resource** – A historic resource that has been designated under the provisions of the Historical Resources Act is formally referred to as a Municipal Historic Resource or a Provincial Historic Resource (depending on whether the Minister or the municipality approved the designation). More generally it is a designated historic resource.  
A historic resource that has not been designated but has been evaluated by the Town of Morinville and deemed to qualify for designation in the future is typically included on a list of eligible properties maintained by the municipality known as an Inventory of Historic Places. The places of interest list is usually the precursor to formally adopting an inventory

- 2.11 **Historical Significance** - means a person, place, structure, thing, moments in time or event that represents important components of the community's history or made a significant contribution to the social identification of Morinville that have been seen as important to preserve and retain as part of the community's overall history.
- 2.12 **Place of Interest** - means a person, place, structure, thing, or location that represents significant components of the community's history or contributions to the social identification of Morinville.

### 3.0 Goals

- 3.1 To facilitate the development of the cultural community and its ability to provide historical and cultural opportunities for the citizens of Morinville.
- 3.2 To support self-determination for the cultural community, recognizing that autonomy and self-direction by cultural groups are critical to a vibrant cultural environment.
- 3.3 To facilitate the development of a sustainable source of funding for historical and cultural endeavors.
- 3.4 To promote regional art in public places.
- 3.5 To promote active collaboration of efforts between organizations engaged in historical and cultural pursuits.
- 3.6 To meet the objectives set out in the community's land use planning documents pertaining to history and culture.
- 3.7 To maintain existing inventories of historical facilities and artefacts for enjoyment of future generations.
- 3.8 To integrate existing historical and cultural venues into development and land-use strategies.
- 3.9 To create and maintain an archive to preserve the organizational history of the Town of Morinville.

#### 4.0 Historical Buildings and Properties

The responsibility of identifying, reviewing and recommending a potential building, structure or property/site as a Place of Interest for historical/cultural reasoning within the corporate limits of Morinville shall rely on the available resources of the municipal department responsible for land use planning.

- 4.1 The identification of a building, structure, thing and/or property as a “Place of Interest” may be brought forward by the community or through Morinville administration for review by Planning Division for the Town.
- 4.2 A building, structure, thing or property to be considered as eligible as a Place of Interest and/or historical resource must be over 50 years old at the time of consideration unless directed by Council.
- 4.3 The identified building and /or property will be reviewed by rating the potential resource against the five (5) criteria established in the 2013 Morinville Heritage Survey Plan and by section 7.5.5 of the Municipal Development Plan (Appendix A). A total score shall be used to rank the proposed resource that then can be used in administration supporting recommendation to Council on identifying and supporting the resource as having heritage and/or cultural value to Morinville.
- 4.4 Council will consider administration’s recommendation to determine if a building, structure, thing and/or property should be put forward to the Province of Alberta as a *Designated Historical Resource* as by meeting the requirements established through the Alberta Historical Resources Act; or designated as a local Historical Resource for the community because of the historical or cultural significance.

#### 5.0 Historical Significance

When identified as per section 4.4 of this policy or as required for evaluation of people, events, artifacts and other items of potential historical significance, the department responsible for Community Services shall be responsible for working with the community and/or other Departments of the Municipality for the overall management, and outcome of events and activities associated with the historical or cultural aspects for Morinville. The Town shall endeavor to support the safeguarding, the preservation and the promotion of events, activities and items that have been seen as having historical significance to Morinville as well as support the goals that have been established through this policy.

- 5.1 The Town (Municipality) shall work to promote Morinville historical or cultural significance by:

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- a) Supporting events and activities that educate and promote Morinville's history and cultural past including but not limited to its French and German Heritage, its relations with the Alexander First Nation.
- b) Leveraging potential Provincial and Federal grants and possible funding with the Town's annual budgeting process for Council's consideration to support Morinville community organizations such as; but not limited to; the Musée Morinville Museum and the Morinville Community Library.
- c) Creating opportunities that facilitate the display and promotion of local art, historical artifacts, items and literature (visual and/or written) that support the goals of this policy in the preservation and promotion of historical and cultural importance.
- d) Consider future reserve funding to support future protection and retention of buildings, structures or artifacts that have been determined to have cultural or historical significance to the heritage of Morinville. Contributions to such a fund to be determined during budget deliberations annually.

## 6.0 Expiry Date

6.1 For the purpose of ensuring this Policy is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or an amended form following a review, this policy expires December 31, 2022.

6.2 This policy shall remain in effect if the review date passes prior to formal review.

## 7.0 Next Steps

Administration recommends a three steps approach to developing a heritage program:

1. Survey and places of interest list by December 31, 2020
2. Inventory by December 31, 2020
3. Management Plan by December 31, 2020

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## SECTION B

### 1.0 Reference to other Policy, Legislation and Morinville Plans

*Historical Resources Act - ALBERTA*

*Municipal Government Act - ALBERTA*

Morinville Heritage Survey Plan (May 2013)

Morinville Municipal Development Plan

Coeur De Morinville Area Structure Plan – Morinville

Alberta Register of Historic Places

### 2.0 Persons Affected

Residents of the Morinville Region

Visitors to Morinville

Community Organizations with the Morinville Region

### 3.0 Review/Revision History and Author

CPS247/2017

229/2005



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Barry Turner  
Mayor



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Stephane Labonne  
Chief Administrative Officer

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## “Appendix A- Municipal Development Plan” Section 7.5.5

**Heritage Resources Management Plan** The Municipal Sustainability Plan (MSP) establishes the vision of embracing the past to build our future through maintaining and celebrating small town culture. Under the Cultural Pillar, the history and identity of Morinville is celebrated and supported, including heritage buildings, sites and commemorative names under the goal *Celebrate Arts, Culture and Heritage* to promote a sense of community.<sup>14</sup>

There are many benefits to preserving historically significant buildings. Morinville’s Downtown neighbourhood contains a number of buildings of historical and architectural significance. Historic buildings, whether remarkable or humble, can tell stories which reflect a community’s heritage. They enhance appeal, adding variety and a sense of place to communities.<sup>15</sup> They promote the economic vitality and liveliness of a neighbourhood.<sup>16</sup>

Supported by the MDP, the Morinville Heritage Survey was completed in 2013 to identify existing built heritage (historic homes and businesses) initially constructed no later than 1930. Within this scope, 49 resources were identified. Each of these criteria were scored using a set of criteria to create a list of Places of Interest – i.e. those worthy of further evaluation for heritage conservation – which identified 23 potential locally significant buildings. The report recommended the preparation of a Heritage Resources Management Plan to effectively implement heritage conservation, and outlined a generalized terms of reference for the plan. The *Cœur de Morinville ASP* further enshrined these recommendations into policy.



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