



STAFF REPORT

Title: Museum Historic Resource Designation Boundary

Meeting Date: September 15, 2020

Executive Summary:

Proposal to create a defined parcel of land to which the Historic Resource Designation of the Cold Lake Museum can be applied.

Background:

The Northern Defence Radar Site, now the Cold Lake Museum, was designated as a Provincial Historic Resource in June of 2010. The Historic Resource Designation currently applies to four Legal Subdivisions (LSDs 8 & 9 of 4-2-63-11 and LSDs 5 & 12 of 4-2-63-12) owned by the City, as the museum site straddles the boundaries of these four LSDs as well as a road allowance.

Administration has been working to create a defined parcel for the museum site, which would allow the Historic Resource Designation footprint to be reduced to the museum site itself, and allow the removal of the designation from the balance of the lands owned by the City, allowing these lands to be used for other purposes. Portions of the surrounding land are currently used for the motocross facility as well as the mountain bike park. The curving road to the site and the pumphouse located at the bottom of the hill are currently listed as part of the character-defining elements of the site; however, Provincial staff have indicated willingness to exclude these elements to allow the Historic Designation footprint to be reduced.

Administration initially proposed to create a parcel whose boundaries would follow the existing fence line of the museum site, as shown in yellow on Map 2. After further discussion with the Provincial staff, it was determined that the new parcel boundary would need to be moved outward in order to retain a buffer of trees, as the forested setting is considered one of the defining elements of the site. The province initially proposed 50 to 100 meters. The currently proposed parcel boundary is shown in white on Map 2. Conversations with Provincial staff indicated that the Province would be open to considering a variable buffer around the site provided that the site maintains the context of being in a forested setting. The proposed parcel boundaries shown in white on Map 2 seek to maintain a significant area of trees around the site, while still allowing for a substantial reduction in the size of the Historic Resource footprint.

It should be noted that most of the conflicts with the City's Master Plan associated with the Mountain Bike Skills Park has been mitigated however depending on the final



designs and the proximity to the Historic Resource Designation some consultation and approval by the province may be necessary. We've attached a map of the Mountain Bike Skills Park for reference purposes.

Once the City and Province have agreed on the boundaries of the site, the partial rescinding of the Historic Designation (to limit the designation footprint to the museum parcel) requires Ministerial approval.

Alternatives:

No alternatives are being proposed at this time.

Recommended Action:

Administration is soliciting feedback back from Council's Corporate Priorities Committee prior to making final recommendation to the Province.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

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