

## **Staff Report 2022-0029**

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Meeting Date: March 22, 2022

Subject: Proposed New Name for the Old Bolton Fire Hall Facility at 28 Ann Street, Ward 5

Submitted By: Heather Savage, Director, Community Services

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Old Bolton Fire Hall located at 28 Ann Street be renamed as, 'The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub'.

### **REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- As part of the 2020-2030 Economic Development Strategy which included a priority action "Improve Quality of Place", the Bolton Downtown Revitalization Plan ('The Plan') was approved by Council in March 2021.
- To further support The Plan, in June 2021 Council unanimously approved a capital budget to renovate the old Bolton Fire Hall.
- The Bolton Downtown Revitalization Task Force have discussed potential names for the old Fire Hall monthly, since May 2021.
- Naming of Town of Caledon facilities is governed by the Town's 2003 Corporate "Naming of Facilities and Property" policy.
- The Task Force was divided on recommending a name to Council. Much consideration has been given to equal representation of Caledon's history, geography and community.
- The Downtown Bolton Revitalization Task Force created a working group that ultimately selected 'The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub' as their recommended facility name.
- Staff recommend that Council approve this name as the official name of the repurposed fire hall.

### **DISCUSSION**

In 2020 The Town of Caledon adopted the 2020-2030 Economic Development Strategy which included a priority action "Improve Quality of Place: Develop a Bolton Downtown Revitalization Plan". As a result, the Bolton Downtown Revitalization Plan (the Plan) was completed by MDB Insight in consultation with council, businesses and community groups.

During the development of the Plan, it was identified that residents felt that the old Fire Hall located at 28 Ann Street should remain in the public's hands and be utilized as an anchor to attract people and entrepreneurs to the area. Council passed capital project 2021-130 in June 2021 to renovate the Fire Hall.

In May of 2021 the Task Force was introduced to the Town's "Naming of Facilities and Property" policy and began discussing the opportunity to recommend possible, official

names for the Fire Hall. The policy helps guide staff and Council through the process to select suitable names that include criteria such as:

- Reflect geographic location, community, neighbourhood or street where property is located
- Recognize the historical significance of the area
- Reflect unique characteristics of the site
- Consultation with stakeholders

Staff worked with the Downtown Bolton Revitalization Task Force which has a cross section of stakeholders at the discussion table, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority.

Throughout the discussions the Task Force was divided; some members felt strongly about a historical name that reflects the efforts of the 1800 settlers. Others felt the name should honour the strong indigenous history in Bolton. All members of the Task Force agreed that indigenous representation is important and should not be limited to the name of the facility, rather, should cascade across multiple aspects of the facility (examples: wall art, plantings). There is a preliminary plan, as discussed with the Task Force, to name open spaces along the Humber River after the local indigenous history.

After deliberating multiple names, the Task Force created a working group to short list and ultimately select one name that captures the essence of the renovations and proposed uses of the facility. As a result of these discussions, the Task Force endorsed the following short-list of names with the first choice being recommended to Council as the name of the old Fire Hall. All three options are in alignment with the corporate policy, and in recognition of our community partners and stakeholders.

1. “The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub”, as proposed by the Bolton Downtown Revitalization Task Force, and reflective of the unique characteristics of the site.
2. “Humber River Centre”, as proposed by staff to reflect the location, community, neighbourhood or street where the property is located.
3. “Jiigaajwan Centre” (translated from the Nishnaabemwin<sup>1</sup> language as ‘near a stream or river’) to recognize the historical significance of the area. The Task Force notes that by selecting an Indigenous name for the facility, additional measures of recognition, support and education should complement this effort from within the building and surrounding areas as well.

Councils’ decision will be presented to the Downtown Bolton Revitalization Task Force meeting scheduled for April 17.

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<sup>1</sup> Nishnaabemwin Dictionary. (2022, February 25). <https://dictionary.nishnaabemwin.atlas-ling.ca/#/results>

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no immediate financial implications associated with this Staff Report. Capital project #21-130 Old Bolton Fire Hall Renovation includes funding for the facility name to be posted on the front of the building.

## **COUNCIL WORK PLAN**

### **Sustainable Growth**

- Bolton downtown revitalization

### **Connected Community**

- Actively promote tourism including our cultural and village main street assets
- Promote community enrichment through support of local groups, enhances partnerships and events

### **Improved Service Delivery**

- Provide options for an innovation hub for residents, entrepreneurs and small business

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None.