



Area: FIN - Finance
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Effective Date: April 30, 2026 **Revision Date:** April 30, 2026
Subject: Designated Heritage Property Grant Program

1. Policy Statement:

The Designated Heritage Property Grant Program is established to provide financial support to owners of designated heritage properties.

2. Purpose:

The Designated Heritage Property Grant Program provides funding to heritage designated property owners for the conservation and preservation of the Town of Goderich's built heritage resources.

3. Policy Requirements:

A. Eligibility

The following eligibility criteria apply to the program:

(i) **Eligible Properties:**

The property must be designated under Part IV or V of the Ontario Heritage Act and must be in compliance with this Act.

(ii) **Eligible Projects:**

Projects that conserve and/or restore the elements cited as attributes of cultural heritage value or interest in the property's designation by-law. These projects will fall into one of three general categories:

- a) the conservation of existing external architectural elements which are significant to the cultural heritage value of the property.

- b) the restoration of significant external original architectural features which still exist, but which are beyond conservation or repair. This only includes accurate reconstructions of original features using materials, sizes and configurations that match the original.
- c) the reconstruction of significant external architectural features which have been lost, but for which the appearance can be clearly determined from documentary sources. These sources may be in the form of photographs or original drawings specific to the property itself not similar properties.

Examples of eligible and ineligible projects are provided in Appendix A.

B. General Provisions:

- (i) Applications will be received in one intake period from January 1 to March 1 each year.
- (ii) Applicants must be the registered owner of the property for which the application is being made or an agent authorized by the registered owner in writing.
- (iii) A property owner who is in arrears of property tax or any other municipal financial obligation is not eligible to participate in the program
- (iv) Application may be made for one project per property per year.
- (v) Grants are matching up to one half of the eligible cost to a maximum of \$10,000 per calendar year.
- (vi) Two quotes are required to support cost estimates. The estimates must clearly itemize labour and material costs related to the eligible project.
- (vii) Grants are not awarded retroactively for work already completed.
- (viii) The amount of approved grants provided is subject to available funding.
- (ix) Complete grant applications will be reviewed by the Municipal and Marine Heritage Committee with a recommendation to be provided for Council's consideration.
- (x) The Municipal Heritage Committee may include conditions with their grant approval recommendation.
- (xi) Goderich Town Council is the final approval authority.
- (xii) Successful applicants will be notified in writing by the Town's Clerk department.
- (xiii) A successful grantee will permit Town staff to enter the property to assess the work while in progress or when complete to assess conformity with the grant application.

- (xiv) If project changes are proposed after grant approval, the grantee is required to notify Town staff and the matter would be redirected back to the Municipal and Marine Heritage Committee for approval.
- (xv) Paid invoices are required to be submitted prior to grant payment. Contractor invoices must be issued by a registered business and include a valid business number.
- (xvi) Once the Town confirms that the project has met all conditions of the grant, staff will issue a cheque to the grantee based on the approved project's actual eligible costs.
- (xvii) Approved projects must be carried out within a year of approval.
- (xviii) The Town may at any time discontinue the program, however, any successful grant applications will continue to be provided the approved grant upon successful completion of their project.

Appendix A

Eligible Projects:

The following is a list of typical conservation projects that would be considered for funding. This is not an exhaustive list but intended to be used as a guide.

1. Repair or replace original siding, including stucco where it is an original finish. Stucco must match the original.
2. Repair and re-pointing of masonry to match original in texture, composition, colour and profile subject to and accordance with the guidelines for historic masonry.
3. Repair or replication of wood windows to match the original size, shape, form and materials. Aluminum storms, windows which are vinyl, aluminum or PVC clad will not be eligible for a grant.
4. Preparation and painting of exterior wood surfaces.
5. Repair or replacement of architectural features such as porches or veranda, where these features can be documented and reproduced in original materials.
6. Repair or replace a chimney based on archival evidence of the original feature.
7. Repair or replication of wooden storm and screen windows where documentation verifies the use of storms and screens.
8. Conserve or replace original roofing materials and flashing. Roofing may include the repair or replacement of the roof deck with matching materials to the original.

The following projects are only eligible for consideration if the structural elements require repair or replacement in order to conserve and stabilize the original structure of the property.

1. Repair, reconstruction or rehabilitation of the property's foundation, columns and footings for the sole purpose of supporting and conserving the foundation.
2. Replacement or reconstruction of the property's windowsills and lintels

Note: The majority of structural project require a building permit.

Ineligible Projects

1. Projects that do not contribute to the conservation of heritage attributes of the property, such as the introduction of new features or additions.
2. Projects that may be considered routine or short-term maintenance such as the repair of a broken window or repair of siding or roofing through patching.
3. The replacement of original roofing materials, such as slate or cedar shakes with asphalt shingles.
4. Vinyl, Aluminum, or PVC clad windows or doors, including insulated doors.

5. Power washing, sandblasting and cleaning of masonry surfaces unless the cleaning can be proven to be necessary for the conservation of the structure.
6. Landscaping, such as driveways unless it is noted within the designation by-law or can be proven to be a restored element original to the property.