

TO: Chair and Members of the Committee of the Whole

FROM: Vincent Sowa, Chair, Burlington Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: 2024 Annual Report for the Burlington Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (BARAAC)

DATE: January 15, 2025

Purpose

This report is to update City Council on the activities of BARAAC during the year of 2024 and to highlight the committee's achievements over that time.

Background

Burlington's geography is unique and rural Burlington, located on the edge of a major urban area, faces significant pressures and challenges as a community, but also significant opportunities. The protection and strengthening of the rural community is the city's overarching goal in planning for the rural area. As the economic viability of farming is central to the future of rural Burlington, the health and prosperity of the agricultural system is integral to these efforts.

2024 Highlights

The following summarizes the Committee's activities and primary achievements:

- Provided feedback to Transportation staff regarding cycling safety in rural Burlington and sharing the road.
- Began work on the Agricultural Action Plan and liaised with Region of Halton and Economic Development staff.
- Provided feedback on dumping issues in the rural area.
- Provided feedback on Next Steps for Urban Forest Master Plan.
- Participated in Food for Feedback event on September 14, 2024.
- Participated in second Burlington Rural Forum on September 12, 2024.
- Met with Conservation Halton staff to review updated mapping.
- Participated in the Halton Region Federation of Agriculture (HRFA) "Agriculture – More than Food" breakfast event on June 24, 2024.
- Participated in several Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance meetings.
- Participated on 2024 Heritage Week Subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Sowa, Chair
BARAAC



Purpose

This report is to update City Council on the activities of BAAC during the year of 2024 and to highlight the committee's achievements over that time.

Background

The AODA requires that the city have an accessibility advisory committee and a majority of members be people with disabilities. Established in 1994, the BAAC provides advice to staff and Council on accessibility issues, not only to help remove existing barriers but also to prevent new barriers from being created.

2024 Highlights

The following summarizes the Committee's activities and primary achievements:

The BAAC was consulted on the following projects in 2024:

- Port Nelson Park and Playground
- Community Engagement Charter Update
- #RespectTheSpace Campaign Update through Parking Services
- Civic Square Renewal Project
- Accessible Parking Standards that are part of the recommended Community Planning Permit (CPP)
- Accessible Parking requirements in the Draft Zoning By-law Amendment
- Downtown Parking project

BAAC had a booth at the Burlington Centre Farmers' Market to seek input from the community on Accessibility issues. They also distributed Treat Accessible signs for Halloween as a part of their ongoing commitment to public education.

BAAC participated in the Burlington for Accessible and Sustainable Transit (BFAST) forum at the Burlington Public library.

BAAC participated in the Living Labs program at the Art Gallery of Burlington. The committee was led by artist Atanas Bozdarov in developing an art installation bring light to the accessible wins and fails in the community.



Burlington Accessibility
Advisory Committee



BAAC also participated in Food for Feedback community engagement opportunity in September 2024. Members were on hand to answer questions from the public and gather input from the community on what accessibility improvements could be made.

In 2021, BAAC designed and purchased a flag for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD). The community was invited to the flag raising event in December 2024. BAAC was delighted to welcome many members of Special Olympics Burlington.

A National AccessAbility Week flag was designed by the Rick Hansen Foundation in 2023 for all to use to raise awareness about accessibility. The community was invited to the flag raising at City Hall with the BAAC and elected officials.

Respectfully submitted,
BAAC



Burlington Inclusivity Advisory Committee Annual Report 2024

Purpose

This report is meant to update City Council on the activities of BIAC during the year of 2024 and highlights the committee's achievements over that time.

Background

The Burlington Inclusivity Advisory Committee is established as an advisory committee to Burlington City Council to provide a monitoring and measuring role to help ensure that the City applies an inclusion lens to its policies, services and programs.

Support the City of Burlington Council to grow and maintain the city's diversity; nurture and sustain an inclusive culture and create an authentic welcoming and safe environment where differences are celebrated, innovation is fostered and where there is zero tolerance for hate, racism or discrimination in all its forms.

2024 Highlights

- Participated and organized Pride flag raising/proclamation
- Involvement in the Civic Recognition Selection Committee (Hanadi Almasri)
- Consultation with Civic Recognition Selections & Ceremony, Community Services Directory Tool with the Oakville Public Library, Community Engagement Charter and Integrated Mobility Transportation (Downtown Parking Plan).
- Development of BIAC Inclusivity Resources, EDI Survey Tool, Conduction of the EDI Survey with Priority Areas Pointed.
- Participated in the Food for Feedback event in September (survey conducted -
- Burlington Public Library Newcomer's Survey, Transit Summer Youth, National Day for Truth Reconciliation, Burlington Downtown Parking Plan

Respectfully Submitted,

Burlington Inclusivity Advisory Committee



Burlington Seniors' Advisory Committee Annual Report 2024

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide council with an update on the activities that the Burlington Seniors' Advisory Committee participated in, in the 2024 committee year.

Background

The Burlington Seniors' Advisory Committee continued meetings in January 2024. The focus was on providing input back to staff regarding initiatives and reports that would affect the older adult/senior population, as well as promoting National Seniors Month and our Provincial Seniors Day. BSAC activities in 2024 are discussed below.

2024 Activities

At each meeting BSAC is apprised of and provides input/questions via cross-representation of the activities of the other Burlington Advisory Committees and Key Stakeholders. Reports are heard from the Staff Liaison, Burlington Public Library, Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee, Burlington Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee, Halton Older Adult Advisory Committee and Burlington Inclusivity Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, all of the presentations and subsequent discussions which provided a wealth of knowledge and information cannot be covered in this report.

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received presentation and provided feedback on the Burlington Civic Square/ Brant St. Renewal Project. • Completed and redesigned the BSAC annual workplan and budget.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received presentation by Christopher Bint, Chief Education Officer and Technology Coach from Tech Coaches on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How to identify and protect yourself from the most common digital hoaxes, including telephone scams and internet tricks, 2) Strategies for recognizing fraudulent communications and avoiding common pitfalls, 3) further topics covered were phishing emails and text messages, identity theft, social engineering and as well, tips for keeping your personal information safe online. • BSAC members were invited to the annual BFAST Transit Users Forum.

<p>March</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received presentation from Shahzi Bokhari, Community Engagement Lead with Connection in Action and Halton's Older Adult Isolation Action Table regarding Connection in Action and the value of social connections. Topics discussed included: 1) How we support adults aged 55+ living in Halton, 2) The value of social connections, 3) The impacts and outcomes of social isolation and loneliness, 4) Spotting the signs and learning how to help, 5) Briefly discussing age-friendly communities and design, 6) Brief introduction to the NORC Google map. • Distribution to committee members of a complete list of contacts of where older adults can get help in Burlington.
<p>April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jon Joyce, Project Manager of MBTW Group provided an updated presentation on the Burlington Civic Square/Brant St. Renewal Project. The committee provided input as it relates to older adults. • Yaya and John attended a Connection in Action Volunteer meeting at Acclaim Health learning that regional funding was only available until June. The information and community participation are very worthwhile to the community so hopefully CIA will be able to continue. • Marilyn attended the Safety Forum that was held at the Art Gallery discussion of the noise, air pollution and environmental and health impacts of gas-powered leaf blowers.
<p>May</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegation by Tom Carrothers, President of the Halton Chapter of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons. CARP provides an incredible amount of research and information on so many issues facing Seniors. • Adam Palmieri, Manager, By-law Enforcement provided information as to what is involved with by-law creation and what would be required for a motion memo to come forward to Council with regard to leaf blowers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSAC provided a letter in support of the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee recommendation regarding a staff report to proceed with the plan to install 2 EV accessible parking spots in parking lot 5B.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Palmieri, Manager, By-law enforcement further provided the committee with an update on research regarding gas-powered leaf blowers and the way by-laws are created and enforced. • BSAC volunteered at the Breakfast at the Bistro event on June 8th • June 13th, Steve and John attended the Designing a Dementia-friendly Tech Club held at the Burlington Library. The event was presented in partnership with McMaster's Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging and focused on the design of a tech club that caters to the unique needs of adults 55+ living with dementia and their care partners. • Members of BSAC coordinated and attended a Flag raising at Civic Square on behalf of Seniors Month
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine Baldelli, Director of Transit and Neal McDonald, Manager of Transit Operations providing an overview of Burlington Transit, fare free transit initiatives (ie. adults over 65 with a Presto card) and Halton Region's Subsidized Passes for low-income transit (SPLIT). The presentation also provided information in regards bus drivers and passenger safety.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaylan Edgcumbe, Manager, Integrated Mobility Transportation and Stephanie Robinson, Transportation Planning Technologist spoke with regard to the Burlington Downtown Parking Plan which is required to manage growth and changes in travel patterns in our downtown for the next 15-20 yrs. BSAC stated that hopefully the plan would take into consideration seniors' and those with accessibility challenges. • Flag raising at Civic Square in honour of our National Seniors' Day

Burlington 
SENIORS'
 Advisory Committee

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John participated on the Civic Recognition Selection Committee • Attendance at a Council Composition and Ward Boundary Review
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration and letter of support for the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee's recommendations for consideration in the development of Burlington's Downtown Parking Plan
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSAC once again volunteered at Breakfast at the Bistro on December 14th.



Burlington Cycling Advisory Committee

2024 Annual Report

Our Role

The role of the Burlington Cycling Advisory Committee is to assist, advise, recommend and support Council in matters pertaining to cycling in the City of Burlington.

Our Vision

To see Burlington become a leading cycling city where people feel safe riding their bikes to and from their destinations anywhere in the city at any time of the year.

Our Objectives:

- To raise awareness of the Cycling Committee
- To gather public feedback to effectively advise City Council
- To help enable a cycling community
- To promote safe cycling practices among citizens

Committee Successes in 2024:

- Cycling giveaways were a huge success during the summer including many bike lights and bells given away.
- The city participated in Bike to School Week with both school boards to promote cycling to school in May and June.
- The five bike repair stations were restored with new tools and bike pumps.
- Cycling and Transit websites were reviewed for accuracy.
- Raised the awareness of the Cycling Committee.
- Gathered feedback to effectively advise City Council.
- Helped to enable a cycling community.

Committee Objectives for 2025

- Continue to raise awareness of the ability to bike in Burlington.
- Make up for lost time from the pandemic and participate in live community biking events to connect with citizens.
- Support staff & council in implementing the Cycling Master Plan and other related processes (e.g. Official Plan, Integrated Transit /Mobility / Active Transportation Plan).

Special Thanks:

The Cycling Committee would like to thank each of the volunteers on the committee without whom the accomplishments in 2024 would not have been possible.

The committee would like to thank Daniel Ozimkovic for his amazing and continued dedication in support of the committee's objectives and for always being available to help with initiatives.

Thank you to Councillor Nisan for being a great supporter of cycling and to Council as a group for providing our committee the opportunity to make connections with each of them over 2024.



TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Michele Camacho, Chair, Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: 2024 Annual Report for Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee

DATE: December 17, 2024

Purpose

This report is meant to update City Council on the activities and achievements of the Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee during 2024 and provide the Committee's work plan for 2025.

Background

The Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee was established by the City in accordance with legislative requirements under the *Ontario Heritage Act* to advise City Council on issues related to the preservation of Burlington's cultural heritage, including the designation of individual properties and Heritage Conservation Districts. The Committee also has a mandate to promote all aspects of Burlington's heritage to its residents and visitors alike.

2024 Highlights

During this year, work continued on with the scope of work identified in the Bill 23 Adaptation Strategy Report, concentrating on the heritage evaluation of non-designated properties on the Municipal Heritage Register ("the Register"). The deadline for this work was extended to January 1, 2027, by the Province, which provided a little more breathing space. Heritage consultants were hired to complete the phase 1 assessment which involved 27 individual properties and properties included in a recommended Heritage Conservation District designation. Next steps will be to identify as many heritage designation candidates as possible out of the remaining non-designated properties on the Register, to be assessed in subsequent studies for designation prior to the 2027 deadline.

Our focus for 2024 also included:

- The identification and protection of heritage properties and trees, and
- Continuing support of current and potential designated property owners through education and celebration of Burlington's heritage and culture.

With regard to heritage trees, the City's Roads, Parks & Forestry Department continues to take the lead on this.

The following summarizes the Committee's activities and achievements during 2024.

- Supported Councillor Stolte's motion to Council on March 19, 2024, requesting that the Mayor's Office send a letter to the Provincial government asking that sub section 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* be amended to extend the deadline from Jan. 1, 2025 to Jan. 1, 2030.
- Consultation with regard to renewal of the Port Nelson Park.
- Review of multiple heritage permit applications.
- Review of multiple Community Heritage Fund Grant and Loan applications.
- Review and recommendation of designation of:
 - 400 Brant Street
 - 518 Brant Street
 - 524 Brant Street
 - 574 Brant Street
 - 620 Brant Street
- A successful Heritage Week celebration lead once again by Marsha Paley involving 40 organizations participating in 27 events and activities. A 2024 Heritage Week report is attached as Appendix A.
- Participation in the City's Food for Feedback event in September 2024.
- Investigation of citizen requests for designation of Kilbride United Church, a stone knee wall on Lakeshore Road, and 3044 Lakeshore Road.
- Participation in the Burlington Historical Society's headstone cleaning and restoration session at the United Empire Loyalist Cemetery in June 2024.
- Review of the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Reports of the first 10 properties in the Phase 1 - Bill 23 Heritage Designation Shortlist Project being carried out by Stantec Ltd.
- Review of the report on the Burlington Avenue and Ontario Street Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Study with recommendation to Council to designate the study area as an HCD, carried out by TRACE Architectures and B+H Master Planning and Urban Design.



2025 Work Plan

Heritage Burlington's 2025 Work Plan highlights the Committee's priorities and identified budget to accomplish its goals.

During the course of this year, our Heritage Planner, Mr. John O'Reilly, was promoted to Supervisor, Site Plan Review, within the City and was replaced by our current Senior Planner, Heritage, Chloe Richer. Our sincere thanks to John for his excellent support of the Burlington Heritage Advisory Committee and welcome to Chloe.

We are very grateful for the excellent, ongoing guidance of the Clerk's Department through Jo-Anne Rudy and the support of the Mayor and City Council.

The volunteer members of Heritage Burlington are committed, engaged and passionate about carrying out the role Council has given to them, and I would like to thank each member for their dedication to the committee, especially core members Len Collins, Alan Harrington, Marsha Paley, Jenna Dobson, and Andy Lyster. This year we added Steve Allen, Diane Smith, Michael Vollmer, Janet Kasperski, Robin Lloyd, and Catherine Robb to our Committee.

Our thanks also to Councillor Stolte, our Council liaison, for her input and guidance to the Committee this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Camacho". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michele Camacho, Chair
Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee

TO: Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee

FROM: Marsha Paley, Chair, Heritage Week Sub-Committee

SUBJECT: Heritage Week 2024 Wrap-up Report

DATE: December 1, 2024

Purpose

The following report provides a summary of the highlights of Heritage Week 2024 and identifies suggestions for enhancements in support of the sub-committee's work. It is also an opportunity to provide recognition and accolades to the numerous groups and individuals who helped make for another successful Heritage Week.

Background

The City of Burlington's Heritage Week, held the first full week of every August, is a time to celebrate the many aspects of the community's various heritages – agricultural, built, cultural, economic, social, etc. Burlington also celebrated two exciting milestones in 2024 – 110 years since the Village of Burlington became a town and 50 years as a city. We branded this year's events as 'Burlington's 110/50'. This year's events flowed wonderfully from the 2023 festivities celebrating Burlington 150+, its Sesquicentennial or 150 years since the establishment of the Village of Burlington. A number of organizations and businesses were also celebrating significant anniversaries which were recognized.

To help mark this year's milestones, over 40 representatives from various organizations, departments and individuals joined together to offer residents and visitors, a very special extended week of heritage events and activities. These events are typically organized by a sub-committee of the Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee and led by one of its members. Other regular sub-committee members include, but are not limited to the following: Burlington Historical Society, Burlington Museums, Burlington Public Library, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington Halton Black History Awareness Society, Beach Canal Lighthouse and History Pix. Over the last two years, this sub-committee grew to include Conservation Halton, Halton Heritage Services, St. Luke's Anglican Church, three Burlington farmers and their families, Art Gallery of Burlington, Cedar Springs Community Club, Burlington Performing Arts Centre, City of Burlington's Community Planning Department, Halton Region's Planning Department, Halton Quilters Guild, Burlington Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Freeman Station, Tourism Burlington, Burlington Downtown Business Association, Burlington Fine Arts Association, Arts Burlington, Roseland Park Community, United Empire Loyalists, Burlington Symphony Orchestra and the Halton District School Board. Many other individuals participated in events. Volunteers from these organizations also came

forward on-the-day of events when extra hands were most needed to support the events. To help collaborate, communicate and to meet deadlines for promotions, monthly meetings were held online to pull together the events calendar.

Comments

As Chair of the Heritage Week 2023 and Heritage Week 2024 sub-committees, it has been an honour and a pleasure to have led the Heritage Week sub-committee through celebrating Burlington 150+ and Burlington's 110/50. Without the energy, enthusiasm, efforts and sharing of resources by those listed above, the extensive high-quality events and activities could not be offered to the community at no cost to attendees.

In 2024, several events were brought back, while many new ones were added for a total of 27 within the theme of "Innovations through the 20th and 21st Centuries." As mentioned, all events had free admission though some required pre-registration or a donation to the Burlington Food Bank, Compassion Society or cash for refreshments. Events that required registrations were open for on-line sign up from July 15th to 31st or until capacity was reached. As several reached capacity before the deadline, for a couple events, a second opportunity was willingly provided to those on waiting lists.

Along with events, residents and visitors were encouraged to check out the various displays including the glass cabinet adjacent to the front entrance of City Hall as well as within City Hall (outside the Council Chambers). In the front entrance, the Burlington Historical Society provided six local innovations including a model of the Skyway Bridge, a made-in-Burlington Munro hockey game and former Queen Elizabeth Way sign. In a display cabinet next to the Council Chambers, the Museums set up a display of a number of items (ballot box, food can, farm produce stencils etc.) from their collections which was augmented by my framed Ontario Bicentennial proclamation signed by former Mayor Roly Bird and to be donated to the Museums along with a number of inaugural items temporarily offered for the display by former Alderman Preston and his family. At the south end of Brant St. in Centennial Square (by Spencer Smith Park), the Burlington Historical Society installed 20 informative signs. Also, David Craig from History Pix ensured that Cogeco's History Minutes continue to offer noteworthy heritage information.

a) Events

This year's Heritage Week was held from Saturday, August 3rd to Saturday, August 10th with a few other events before and after this full week. Starting on August 3rd, the Burlington Museums hosted the Opening Ceremony at the Joseph Brant Museum. The Opening Ceremony was a wonderful start with comments by special guests, a presentation of a donated plaque to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Cedar Springs Community Club, followed by the Spencer Smith Park sign to highlight the 125th and 105th anniversaries of the founding of the Burlington Historical Society and the Burlington Horticultural Society's founding meetings, respectively. Then there were

presentations of certificates from the Mayor's Office to a number of restaurants, businesses and churches on their long-running anniversaries. Recognition of those long-term organizations and businesses in the community was a good draw with 62 being in attendance. Following the Opening Ceremony, Alan Harrington hosted the Spencer Smith Park/Beachway Park Waterfront trail walk with 20 people walking to the lighthouse on the south side of the Canal Lift Bridge. The Moccasin Identifier Initiative Promenade pathway painting, a special children's activity with the stencil kit offered graciously from Halton Heritage Services, was rescheduled due to the weather until the following Saturday. Though the two registered children did not attend, this was definitely a highlight activity for both myself and my sister as we painted five different moccasins on the asphalt next to the lakefront – we are trying to determine how a more permanent method can be done nearby to recognize the steps of the many First Nations who walked this area long before the settlers came. The mainstay Halton Freedom Celebration Festival is one of the week's signature events also held in Spencer Smith Park in the afternoon and evening with musicians, food and other cultural activities.

Sunday's activities included the second Heritage Driving Tour which showcased a number of 20th century sites under the Ontario Heritage Trust's theme of adaptive reuse, or the use of heritage buildings/structures for other purposes than their first or subsequent use while retaining their heritage values. The tour was split into an urban and rural version. There was also a cooking demonstration with Affirm College of Culinary Arts at the Centro Garden Farm Market to highlight local produce. This event used produce on-site that day and the event was well-received by those at the market.

Monday's highlights were the Hidden Beauties Art Sale and the first En Plein Air Painting Festival at St. Luke's Anglican Church property where over a dozen artists had tables of their beautiful works of art available for purchase or out on the grounds painting. St. Luke's Church, the oldest church building in Burlington at 190 years was also open for meditation and to walk-through. At one or more of the paintings created during the en plein air festival are being donated for the church's fundraising activities. Upstairs in the community centre, Hugh Fraser, President, Ontario Barn Preservation shared fascinating information on the barns of Ontario and sold signed copies of his self-published book "Swing Beam Barns of Niagara" highlighting 50 barns build circa 1819 to 1884. He is currently working on a second book and we hope one of the swing beam barns of Burlington will be included. Given these events, over 90 people walked through the grounds and buildings of St. Luke's. With no admission cost, a large box of items was collected for donation to the Burlington Food Bank and Compassion Society of Halton. Alan Harrington gave a second walk this time in LaSalle Park and along the waterfront trail talking about the explorer Rene-Robert Cavalier de LaSalle and the history of the unique natural area and community with 30 people joining him.

On Tuesday and Thursday, the Burlington Public Library held two sessions at two library branches, a session on the Burlington Digital Archive. A total of ten registered and nine attended. A great opportunity to learn about how to search for, view and

download the digitized items in the Burlington Historical Society's/City's/Library's collections. Repeat screenings for the "Eyes of Memory" were held at the Joseph Brant Museum though were found to be less popular than last year. There were 21 attendees at two screenings. Suggestions for 2025 include movies made in Burlington or the Brant Inn video. Although the weather looked like it was going to be a factor, a lovely evening was in store for those 80 people who came to hear our majestic Burlington Symphony Orchestra in the 60 year-old band shell at Central Park.

Wednesday's Burlington Public Library event included a workshop on family history and genealogy. The Royal Botanical Gardens provided its ever-popular guided walk on the natural and cultural significance of the National Historic Site designated Burlington Heights landscape. A filled-to-capacity group of 20 had the eminent Dr. David Galbraith as the leader of the walk.

Thursday was a busy day, in recognition of their 100th anniversary; the Roseland Park Community had two tours in their lovely area. In the morning, a City arborist provided a walk for 20 attendees around the community talking about the importance of trees and highlighting the need for green infrastructure. Many of the properties still have their one maple tree gracing their front lawns planted in the early 1920s. The afternoon tour was to talk about Port Nelson at the south end of Guelph Line and showcase the 20th and 21st century stately homes. The evening had the always popular trivia night with Don Thorpe, Burlington Historical Society and David Craig, History Pix at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre. With all new questions, over 80 attendees were in for a fun and possibly learned something about Burlington – certainly there was a lot of laughter and a chance to win a prize with one of the youngest taking home two of the prizes.

On Friday, the Heritage Fair welcomed a total of 45 attendees. Eight tables were filled with representatives from the Halton Police Services (with their Township of Trafalgar police car door), the Burlington Historical Society, the City's Community Planning - Heritage Services and consultants on the upcoming Heritage Conservation District Study, Heritage Burlington and others. Then three special presentations were put on by Burlington's Heritage Planner Chloe Richer, the Royal Botanical Garden's Dr. Galbraith and History Pix's David Craig. The special focus this year was on the importance, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage landscapes, buildings and objects.

Saturday's five Doors Open sites welcomed 372 visitors, less than last year given more sites were open in 2023. A fabulously informative presentation was put on in the morning by the Kilbride History Group at the Cedar Springs Community Clubhouse. It was held twice with 35 attendees at each. Members of the Cedar Springs Community went above and beyond to help out at the event shuttling people to and from the event location to other viewed sites. The week and day also ended with the Art Gallery of Burlington's activities and tours of exhibits.

In addition to these events, Heritage Burlington's Committee Clerk and Heritage Planner gathered together related word find puzzles as children's activities; however, we found that adults enjoyed them also. The City Crest was also printed in a 2-foot x 2-foot size

for placement on an easel at events. Accompanying the crest were colouring sheets with a smaller version of the crest for colouring, again taken by both adults and children.

The week was also extended with three additional events. On August 1st, there was the first ever scan-a-thon by the Burlington Museums at Joseph Brant Museum. The time was filled by a number of residents who brought in their items to be scanned; where they could take a digital copy home and offer to donate a digital version to the museum's digital collection. Our family provided a 1940s dated panoramic photo of the employees of the Glover basket factory as our mother worked there in the late-40s. It is the accompanying story-telling that came with such documents which were most compelling. Next was the availability of a limited batch low alcohol "Garden City Heritage Mead" made by BackedbyBees prior to the start of Heritage Week 2024. This mead was made in special recognition of two of the symbols on the City crest – a bee hive and apples. Both are in respect of Burlington's prosperous farming background and it once being known as the "Garden of Canada". The mead combined the finest local honey and the crisp, fresh flavours of Halton Region's apples. The third was an extra special children's activity hosted by the Halton District School Board for Burlington's elementary school students. The school board offered an exciting opportunity for the students to learn about and celebrate the history of the area through producing a poem, song, photo story, video, poster, artwork, movie trailer or trading cards or other creative outlet. Students interested were invited to submit their work no later than September 27th.

b) Promotions

Advertising was done through various methods though unlike last year there was no media release. The webpage with the full event calendar went live on July 11th. City Communications staff did send out several Heritage Week postings on social media including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Threads, between July 11th and August 3rd. Typically, after the postings there was a request for an interview prior to or at an event. To our knowledge there was at least three online articles generated. This year the sub-committee was limited to five City facility sign locations – these were determined to be at the City's facilities on high visibility roads including Appleby Line, Brant Street, Guelph Line and Walkers Line. As Chair, several meetings were attended (Burlington Historical Society, Arts Burlington etc.) where Heritage Week was promoted. The Burlington Historical Society, Kilbride History Group, Burlington Performing Arts Centre and others also provided information to their members via emails, e-newsletters and social media postings. All members of Council were provided information for their on-line newsletters though several recipients could not recall seeing it and made contacts with their Councillor's office. For future weeks, it may be helpful for there to be a dedicated person or even sub-committee to ensure early, clear and repetitive promotions are provided.

One suggestion from last year, the printing and use of Heritage Week event location lawn signs, was completed. Fifteen signs were made by the City's Print staff and were used at a number of the event locations with several comments noted of the locations

being found more easily. Without dates, these can be used year-after-year. The challenge is pulling them up and moving them to another location. Once again posters of the event calendar were printed and distributed to 60 locations via hand delivery or in mailboxes for City facilities.

c) Recommended Enhancements

At our wrap-up meeting on September 11th, the Heritage Week Sub-Committee put forward the following requests:

- Purchase of a portable wireless voice amplifier microphone for tours;
- As City-sponsored and organized events, more City promotion including a media release as was done previously in 2023, include use of banners in or on City facilities etc. (e.g., Joseph Brant Hospital Auxiliary Antique Auction on City Hall front entrance) or streets;
- Increase in budget for communications;
- A Publicity and Promotion Sub-Committee including a spokesperson from the City Communications who can generate more publicity and promotion of events starting earlier including Heritage Week one month ahead of time within the various communities, churches, libraries, etc.;
- Ability of participating organizations to self-promote the events they are hosting;
- Consideration for Heritage Week to be moved to another week in the year given the challenges of vacation and long Civic Day weekend;
- More evening and hands-on programming if we want to continue to attract a younger audience;
- Revamping of City's website to make it easier to navigate for effective promotion;
- Enquiry if the Museum could be the focal point of Heritage Week with Museum staff suggesting discussion of holding another event;
- Need for a Chair and a co-Chair or Vice-Chair of the Sub-committee;
- Delegated roles for Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee members;
- Invite Councillors to attend as event ambassadors;
- From a planning perspective, get dates ready earlier in the year; and,
- A discussion with City staff to rebalance Heritage Burlington's responsibilities with regard to the celebration and promotion of our heritages and Heritage Week events.

Financial

The City's dedicated Heritage Week budget for 2024 is \$4,500. All facilities were provided at no cost, which is a substantive savings for Heritage Week; could not be done without these significant contributions. Total costs for two aluminum recognition plaques (\$1,000), made beautifully made by Burlington National Signs in 2023 and 2024 for the St. Luke's Sesquicentennial Red Oak and the 100th anniversary of the Cedar Springs Community Club, respectively, were donated by me, as the Chair of the sub-committee. The Spencer Smith Park sign was paid by the Burlington Historical Society.

Special anniversary certificates were provided by the Office of the Mayor. Speaker gifts came from Heritage Burlington or were donated by sub-committee members including from individuals, organizations (Burlington Historical Society) or businesses.

From the perspective of in-kind work put forward by the sub-committee, a minimum of an estimated 2,000 hours of volunteer time is being given to pull Heritage Week together by Heritage Burlington members who participated. Even at an estimated 2024 cost of a living wage of \$23/hour (in the GTA), the sub-committee donated at minimum \$46,000 of in-kind volunteer work to the City of Burlington; that amount can double or triple or more based on a competitive professional salary for archivist/historians, etc. This also does not account for the hours put forward by staff from Halton Region, City of Burlington, the Burlington Chamber of Commerce, Art Gallery of Burlington, Royal Botanical Gardens and other partners.

Summary

The above report is a summary of the events, outcomes, costs and wrap-up recommendations. Information regarding the events, the promotion undertaken, the showcasing of the commemoration of organizations and businesses, and the awareness building of Burlington's history and heritage are specifically highlighted. In wrapping-up this year's Heritage Week, a list of 12 requested actions came from sub-committee members including additional promotion among other matters. It is recommended that the report be attached to the Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee's annual report to Council.

Should you have any questions, on these comments, please contact the undersigned through Jo-Anne Rudy, Committee Clerk, Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee. Thank you for your consideration of the report including the suggested enhancements.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha L. Paley

Marsha L. Paley
Chair, Heritage Week Sub-Committee
Vice-Chair, Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee



2024 Annual Report

Purpose:

This report is to update Burlington City Council on the activities of the Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee (ITAC) for the year 2024.

Terms of Reference and Mandate

ITAC was established in 2015 as an advisory committee to Burlington City Council. The membership consists of six citizens representing the community-at-large plus representatives from the following Advisory Committees: Burlington Cycling Committee (Cycling), Sustainable Development Committee (SDC), Burlington Seniors' Advisory Committee (BSAC), and Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC).

This umbrella advisory committee advises on policies, initiatives, and strategies affecting all forms of transportation, including cycling, pedestrian, transit, and driving. The committee provides comprehensive and coordinated input to Council and staff on these matters and provides comments on the City of Burlington's master plans pertaining to transportation/transit issues and strategic input on key projects. Transportation involves a wide variety of topics and issues that the committee regularly discusses and considers.

Continuing their community outreach and educational work from 2023, ITAC expanded its mandate in 2024 by participating in the City's Food for Feedback event, BurlingtonGreen's National Bike Month as well as the Forum sponsored by Burlington for Accessible Sustainable Transit (BFAST).

2024 Activities:

This past year has been an active and productive one for the members of ITAC partly because we had six returning members with only four new ones. We were able to maintain building continuity and teamwork into our committee endeavours both at meetings as well as in our outreach efforts. Monthly meetings included regular updates from all the Integrated Transportation staff. Highlights included numerous presentations and discussions from:

- 1) Transportation Planning and Active Transportation: Civic Square/Brant St. Renewal Project; Downtown Parking Plan; Prospect St. protected cycling lane; June Bike Month; and various problems with pedestrian crossings.
- 2) Traffic Operations and Signals: Automated Speed Enforcement; School Safety Committee; Transit Signal Priority Project; Rainbow crosswalks; and traffic lights.
- 3) Transit: relocation of Burlington Transit Terminal; a transit planning exercise to better understand transit route development; the current (2020-2024) *Transit Business Plan*; transit routes and schedules; and ridership statistics.

Our four liaison members from the other citizen Advisory Committees: Cycling, SDC, BSAC, and BAAC gave regular monthly updates if their activities were relevant to ITAC.

Monthly meetings were also an opportunity for members to learn more about related issues from both City staff as well as community organizations concerned with a variety of transportation issues: after Lynn Robichaud (COB Manager of Environmental Sustainability) did a presentation and update on our Electric Mobility Strategy for Burlington (2022, updated 2023) in March, we invited, Amy Schnurr from BurlingtonGreen to discuss their work on this topic in April since ITAC considered it to be a major issue not only currently, but even more so in the future. The use of e-bikes and micromobility devices was of particular interest to the committee, especially in terms of their popularity and at the same time, lack of legislation concerning their use. We also welcomed Nick Morrison, from Safe Streets Halton to two of our monthly meetings as well as one of our working group meetings to discuss student safety issues as well as Bill 212 from the Ontario government. We were also pleased to welcome Jim Young from Burlington for Accessible, Sustainable Transit (BFAST) as an informal stakeholder representative who could attend meetings and participate in our discussions. It is hoped that in 2025 the Clerks Department will conduct their review and update the committee's terms of reference so that this temporary arrangement with BFAST will become permanent.

In addition to our monthly meetings, which all had quorum, we also had meetings for two working groups: 1) planning for our Food for Feedback outreach table (see below), and 2) Student Safety (in their travels to and from elementary school). For the latter, the six-member working group decided to create a google survey, explanatory letter, and FAQ to be distributed to parents and guardians through Halton District School Board (HDSB) leadership. The questions included how children currently get to school as well as concerns about safety issues for all forms of transportation. The survey was sent out to all HDSB elementary schools on Nov.15 via the Principals' Friday Newsletters.

Community outreach continued to be an important focus for our volunteer committee, both in terms of receiving feedback from the community, but also informing them about ITAC's work. Our first outreach event was on May 4 at the BFAST Transit Forum with 3 members participating. Through the use of a general comment card transit users told us about some of their concerns: frequency of service, accessibility and user experience. We were able to analyse the information from the 31 completed cards. On June 8, for Bike Month, four members joined with BurlingtonGreen at their Burlington Waterfront location to get feedback from the passing cyclists and pedestrians about Active Transportation in Burlington. We were able to compile data from 70 comment cards. In September, at Food for Feedback, eight of our members participated in helping citizens with three "dotmocracy" boards (voting with dots) as well as filling out 60 comment cards to gauge citizens' transportation concerns. For all our outreach events our swag reflective arm bands with the ITAC logo were well received by the public.

Our committee's work concluded this year with a three-page letter in response to the Province of Ontario's proposal to restrict bike lanes: "Bill 212 Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024". In addition to it being an attachment to the City's submission to the Provincial Government, we also sent it to six MPP's and one MP.

A very special thank you needs to be given to all the Transportation staff who have attended our monthly meetings for the past year. They have given freely of their time and done an excellent job of keeping committee members informed about all aspects of transportation matters, problems, projects, updates, and plans. For ITAC it has been a positive and productive exchange of ideas. We are also

sincerely grateful to our City Clerk, Lisa Palermo for her guidance and efforts to help make this committee as productive as possible.

In conclusion, the committee has formed a strong team spirit which led to congenial and productive meetings and projects. An appreciative thank you needs to be given to those committee members who are finishing their term in December while we will welcome our newly appointed members. We look forward to resuming our work in 2025 and are excited to continue learning and contributing to all aspects of transportation and transit issues in Burlington.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Debly, 2024 Chair, Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee

Burlington Mundialization Committee

Itabashi Sub-committee 2024 Annual Report

Members of the Itabashi sub-committee include council appointed members of the Mundialization Committee and citizen volunteers:

- Marybeth Curtin, Chair
- Rob Lyng
- Diana Tello
- Aysha Rizwan
- Leanne Cecil
- Dan McNeill

2024 Annual Report Highlights

- 35th Anniversary of Twinning with Itabashi
- Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival)
- Library Events
- Elementary Student Art Exchange
- High School Pen Pal Program

35th Anniversary of Twinning

Burlington and Itabashi celebrated 35th years of their twin-city relationship in 2024. In June, we welcomed the official delegation from Itabashi. Representatives from the City of Burlington and the Mundialization Committee participated in the festivities alongside Mayor Sakamoto of Itabashi, Chairman Tanaka, four Assembly Members and several Itabashi City staff. Key events included a courtesy call in Council chambers, Sakura tree planting at City Hall, and the unveiling of the public art at Spencer Smith Park that the Itabashi Sub-Committee had commissioned to recognize our twin city relationship. The group also took part in a number of cultural activities, including a guided tour of Crawford Lake; a tour and lunch at Backed by Bees; visits to Tansley Woods Recreation Centre, Art Gallery of Burlington, and the Royal Botanical Gardens; the Canada Day Jitney at the Burlington Lawn Bowling Club; a BBQ lunch at LaSalle Park, and Canada Day celebrations at Spencer Smith Park. The celebration was capped off with dinner and gift exchange at Spencer's on the Waterfront, with fireworks and drone viewing to follow.

In October, Mayor Marianne Meed-Ward, Councillor Rory Nisan as well as two Burlington City staff and two members of the Mundialization Committee, travelled to Itabashi to continue the anniversary celebration. The delegation from Burlington participated in a courtesy call at Itabashi City Hall, a maple tree planting, and formal reception. Cultural activities included a visit to the historical town of Kawagoe for an eel lunch and rickshaw ride, a tour of Itabashi Public Library, Japanese tea ceremony, and parade and performances at the Itabashi Citizen Festival. A Sayonara dinner closed the visit, featuring gift exchanges and speeches marking the occasion.

Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival)

The twelfth annual Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom festival) was held Saturday May 11 in the lobby of the Burlington Performing Arts Centre. This free, public event included live performances of Japanese instruments taiko, shamisen, traditional Japanese and yosakoi dance, and karate, iaido, and aikido demonstrations. Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and Takeshi Matsunaga, Consul General of Japan in Toronto, delivered welcoming remarks. The festival was quite popular with approximately 250 people attending. Photographs and a description of the event were printed in the June edition of Nikkei Voice – a Japanese Canadian National Newspaper.

Library Events

Two library events were held in conjunction with the Burlington Public Library:

- Sword Appreciation Talk on March 30 with Sante Tonello (25 participants)
- Screening of film “Hula Girls” on June 27 in partnership with the Japan Foundation, Toronto (18 participants)
- A third planned event, a Haiku workshop, was cancelled due to illness

Student Art Exchange

In June and July, artwork by students of Burlington’s Frontenac P.S. and Itabashi’s Fujimidai P.S. was displayed in the Burlington Performing Arts Centre during the Sakura Festival and then at City Hall while the Itabashi delegation was visiting. In September, the Burlington art was sent to Itabashi for display. Participating Burlington students received a certificate signed by Mayor Meed-Ward.

High School Pen Pal Program

A Pen Pal Program between students of M.M. Robinson and Tokyo Kasei Junior and High School was conducted.

Other

February 23, 2024, on the invitation of the Consul General of Japan in Toronto, Rob Lyng, Marybeth Curtin and Leanne Cecil represented the Itabashi sub-committee at an event marking the birthday of the Emperor of Japan at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (Toronto).

Work was completed to provide public art wraps of two large utility boxes in Spencer Smith Park, one Itabashi themed and the other Apeldoorn themed. The Itabashi art selected was titled “Harmony Across Horizons,” by artist Ann-Marie Cheung. The wrap was installed in June 2025 in time for the 35th Anniversary celebration.

Burlington Mundialization Committee

UN Sub-committee 2024 Annual Report

One of the Mundialization Committee's objectives is to celebrate the importance and achievements of the UN and its mandate. For this purpose, a UN sub-committee was formed. Members of the UN sub-committee include council appointed (C-A) member of the Mundialization Committee and citizen and student volunteers:

- Agamyia Khurana
- Allina Malik
- Chris VanDooren (Co-Chair)
- Dasnoor Sidhu
- Mary-Ann Campanelli (Co-Chair)
- Uday Khanna
- Alia Sayed
- Armaan Moom
- Daschel Ruggiero
- Joanna Sparrow (Co-Chair to April)
- Paula Hearn (Co-Chair)
- Sagar Garg

2024 Annual Report Highlights

- Presented second annual Shadi Salehian Memorial Model UN Leadership Awards.
- Updated UN sub-committee webpage.
- 10 meetings supporting committee events and local Model UN groups.
- Organized and delivered a Model UN conference at City Hall on October 24th.
- Organized and hosted a UN flag raising event on Oct. 24 in Civic Square.
- Established outreach and awareness campaign with high schools in Burlington.

Shadi Salehian Memorial Model UN Leadership Award

This award was given to Alia Sayed and Thomas Antunes in honour of Shadi Salehian. A ceremony was held at our MUND meeting in June. Family members for the award winners were in attendance as was Shadi's family. The award is an annual event chosen through a competitive process.

UN Day Flag Raising

Sub-committee members planned and hosted the event at City Hall. Local dignitaries presented including representatives from both Burlington MPs and MPPs.



2024 Model UN Conference

The sub-committee delivered a conference attended by about 150 high school students from the Halton Region. Virtual presentations were provided by MP Karina Gould and Mayor Meed Weed. Councilor Nisan provided a keynote. Students organized into several breakout sessions throughout the full-day event.



Burlington Mundialization Committee

Apeldoorn Sub-committee 2024 Annual Report

Members of the Apeldoorn Subcommittee include Council appointed members of the Mundialization Committee and citizen Volunteers

Anne Koopman, Chair	Allan Dykstra	Arnold Koopman
Barb Krukowski	Johanna Haan	Shirley Stafford
Bill Stafford	Charlie Minken	Larry Krukowski
Miles Ross		

The friendship between Burlington and Apeldoorn continues to flourish. This exemplifies the goals of the Mundialization committee to promote Burlington as part of the world community through twin city relationships that include art and cultural exhibits, citizen exchanges and official delegations visits. All meetings were held in person during the year.

Highlights of 2024:

- 2000 Oranje tulip bulbs
- Elementary school pen pals, gr 5/6
- Elementary school gr.7/8 freedom assignments.
- Canada Netherlands Friendship Day
- Burlington Apeldoorn citizen exchange.
- Burlington public art installation

The committee distributed 2,000 Oranje tulip bulbs around the city. These bulbs were in keeping with the theme of the 20th anniversary of the twinning of our cities. We also helped plant some of these bulbs in several elementary schools.

Elementary school programmes

We have two elementary schools involved in pen pal programmes (gr. 5/6) with schools in Apeldoorn. Two older classes (gr.7/8) are working on art with the theme “what does freedom mean to me). The art will be displayed for the 20th twinning and Canada Netherlands Friendship Day event May 2025.

Canada Netherlands Friendship Day

The event was celebrated on Saturday, May 11 at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre. The theme for this year was Paint the Town Oranje The colour of the Royal family. The house of Orange-Nassau. It was a great success even though the numbers were down a bit from last year. We had great emcees, and the Burlington Teen Tour band is always a great crowd pleaser.

Citizen exchange

In September Burlington residents welcomed 22 citizens from Apeldoorn for a 10-day cultural exchange. The Apeldoorners had a great time and found new friendships with their host families during their time in Burlington. The travellers enjoyed many Burlington sites including a downtown tour, Crawford Lake and the Royal Botanical Gardens.

Burlington Public art installation

During the visit of the citizens from Apeldoorn a new piece of public art was unveiled in Spencer Smith Park. The art was done by Julia Prazja and her concept shows the beautiful and harmonious relationship formed by our two cities. We have the Ontario trillium and the Dutch tulip, plus the Jack in the pulpit and the woodland anemone. The ribbon was officially cut by Mayor Marianne Meed Ward of Burlington and former Mayor Fred de Graaf of Apeldoorn.



Purpose

This report is to update City Council on the activities of SDC during the year of 2024 and to highlight the committee's achievements over that time.

Background

The Burlington Sustainable Development Committee is a citizen advisory committee, reporting to City Council through the Committee of the Whole. A group of interested citizens initially gathered in 1990 and Council approved six principles and the following objectives of sustainable development in November 1994:

- Protection of Natural Resources Reforestation of the City
- Full Public Participation in Development Decisions Best Use of Land
- Actively Promote Sustainable Development Balanced Development
- Protection and Enhancement of Natural Features Natural Storm Water Management
- Efficient Urban Design Accessible Community Development
- Responsible Use of natural Resources Energy Conservation
- Integration of Natural Features and Green Space Ecosystem Auditing
- Balanced Transportation System Evaluation of Development
- Minimal Discharge of Toxic Pesticides and Other Toxic Chemicals

2024 Highlights

The following summarizes the Committee's activities and primary achievements:

The SDC was consulted and/or informed on the following projects in 2024:

- Flooding and Spillways
- Integrated Mobility Plan
- Urban Forest Master Plan
- Civic Square renewal project – 3 design concepts

SDC provided comments on the following development applications:

- 236 Plains Road East
- 271 and 2362 Fairview Street
- 1393 Grahams Lane



SDC received a presentation from Jesse Elders from the Bay Area Climate Change Council regarding current programs and initiatives.

The committee participated in the BurlingtonGreen Clean-up Green-up community event. The committee cleaned up over 13 bags of litter.

Respectfully submitted,

SDC