

City of Mississauga
Memorandum



Date: November 1, 2023

To: Chair and Members of Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Nadia Paladino, Director, Parks, Forestry and Environment

Meeting date: November 14, 2023

Subject: Proposed changes to the Ontario Heritage Act and O.Reg. 385/21

The Province of Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism is proposing an amendment to the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA) and O.Reg. 385/21. The change would affect Section 33 of the OHA which requires that a property owner obtain approval for the alteration of a designated heritage property if the alteration will impact the heritage attributes of said property.

The proposed change to the regulation would require municipalities to consent, without terms and conditions, to proposed alterations to buildings on designated properties, where the building is primarily used for religious practices. The property owners would need to demonstrate that the heritage attributes to be altered are connected to religious practices and that the alterations are required for religious practices and all other conditions of the proposed legislative and regulatory amendments are met. Municipalities would have 30 days to provide a notice of consent or of an incomplete application. Further information can be found on the Province's ERO <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-7684>

Staff have reviewed this proposed amendment in the context of the religious buildings currently captured on the City's Heritage Register. Staff have determined that the risk to this amendment change will have very little impact to Mississauga's Heritage Register. The current application process, as outlined in the City's Heritage bylaw, currently permits approval of alteration of properties after review at either Meadowvale or Port Credit HCD committees or at the Heritage Advisory Committee, prior to the matter going to Council. As such, this amendment would have little impact on the Heritage Planning process in the City.

Prepared by: John Dunlop, Manager, Indigenous Relations, Heritage and Museums