



## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

### OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *Committed to delivering cost-effective and efficient services for the residents of the Town of Amherstburg with a view to improve and enhance their quality of life.*

Author's Name: Heidi Baillargeon	Report Date: November 25, 2021
Author's Phone: 519 736-0012 ext. 2128	Date to Council: December 13, 2021
Author's E-mail: <a href="mailto:hbaillargeon@amherstburg.ca">hbaillargeon@amherstburg.ca</a>	Resolution #:

To: Mayor and Members of Town Council

Subject: The Italian Heritage Monument Project

---

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

1. Council **APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE** the proposed Italian Heritage Monument Project on behalf of the Italian Heritage Monument Fundraising Committee provided the committee raise the funding for the project in its entirety as noted in the report of November 25, 2021.
2. Council **APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE** the proposed location of the monument in Kings Navy Yard Park as per **Appendix A**.
3. Council **APPROVE** that Administration work with the Italian Heritage Monument Fundraising Committee on the following initiatives:
  - a. Develop an agreement between the Town of Amherstburg and the Italian Heritage Fundraising Committee for scope of work, creation of the sculpture, the roles and responsibilities of the committee and the Town including the ultimate transference of ownership of the sculpture and other rights to the Town of Amherstburg.
  - b. Develop a maintenance Trust Fund to be utilized for future maintenance and repairs.
  - c. The Financial Services Division set up an account for the Italian Heritage Monument to accept all fundraising and donations on behalf of the Italian Heritage Committee and issue tax receipts for donor contributions.
  - d. Ensure the monument meets or exceeds current construction and material standards to the satisfaction of the Director of Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Culture and that the project meet all obligations covered under the Town's Memorial Policy (currently under review).

- e. That the Heritage Committee be consulted on the location of the monument in the King's Navy Yard Park in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act.
4. Council **DIRECT** Administration to bring back a detailed report that outlines the full scope of the project, including all costs associated with the project and any long term financial commitments of the Town prior to commencement of work on site.

## **2. BACKGROUND:**

On April 26, 2021, Frank Di Pasquale and Betty Federico, two local residents of Amherstburg, brought forth a delegation to Council for the commissioning of an Italian monument and sculpture honouring local immigrants.

### *DELEGATION:*

Honouring the Accomplishments of Local Immigrants - Betty Federico and Frank Di Pasquale

Resolution # 20210426-131

**Moved By** Councillor Simone  
**Seconded By** Councillor Prue

**That the delegation BE RECEIVED.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

### **Motion Carried**

The Italian Heritage Monument Fundraising Committee is comprised of a core group of individuals who are responsible for the project including but not limited to all planning and fundraising efforts for the commissioning and build out of a bronze life size monument in Kings Navy Yard Park.

## **3. DISCUSSION:**

The Italian Heritage Monument Fundraising Committee have commissioned a world renowned artist Armando Barbon as the sculptor for the bronze Italian Heritage monument as per preliminary, conceptual design **Appendix B**. Mr. Barbon's projects have included large-scale works and monuments in Halifax, Pisa (Italy), Victoria (B.C) and Toronto.

The purpose and overarching themes by the committee for the Italian Heritage Monument Project include but are not limited to the following:

- Journey to the new world overcoming fear and the unknown, the sacrifices of our ancestors accepted for their family for a better life
- In recognition to our original immigrants

- The root of Italian migrants
- The roots of our immigrant success
- In dedication to our immigrant beginnings in Canada
- In gratitude to the sacrifices of our immigrant ancestors
- In recognition to the original immigrants that sacrificed, so we would have a better life

Fundraising discussions with donors are currently underway and the group meets on a regular basis to keep the project moving forward. This summer shortly after the delegation presentation to Council they approached Town Administration to help select a site suitable for the monument (see Appendix A), and have been working with the artist to capture the essence of the themes mentioned above.

The work on the sculpture has not commenced with the exception of preliminary sketches. The estimated time to commission the piece and have it installed is anticipated to take anywhere from 6 months to just over a year depending on approvals, site preparation and availability of materials due to COVID-19.

In working with the Italian Heritage Fundraising Committee, it was felt that the most appropriate site for the monument was in Kings Navy Yard Park down by the water where the ships dock. The site location depicted in Appendix A sets the stage to tell the story about how local immigrants would have arrived to the area. Nestled in the beautifully landscaped Kings Navy Yard Park the monument will be a welcomed piece of art that will provide a story and attraction for visitors in the area.

#### **4. RISK ANALYSIS:**

It is noted that the proposal is a cultural project that will produce a significant cultural asset for the residents of the Town of Amherstburg. There are inherent financial and physical risks associated with accepting the project and sculpture as a Town owned asset that is displayed outside in a public park environment.

The long term maintenance of the sculpture as well as any vandalism risks could pose significant costs to the Town. In order to help mitigate these risks it is recommended that an ongoing maintenance and trust fund be set up and approved as part of the project.

#### **5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

The cost of the Italian Heritage Monument Project is estimated to be approximately \$800,000 paid for in full by the Italian Heritage Monument Fundraising Committee. The following items are included for consideration in the order of magnitude costing;

##### **Italian Heritage Monument Project – Order of Magnitude Costs**

Stamped Engineered Design Drawings
Soil Sampling and Bore Hole Testing in the Park

Footings including all labour and Material based on drawings
Monument from Armando Barbon includes 4 bronze figures, 1 trunk, 2 suitcases, marble base and steps, book inscription for both sides, 2 hampers of tomatoes, freight for 1 40' container, 39,000 lbs loaded with steps, platform and book. Shipping included.
Crane operator for erecting the monument in the park
Installation of the monument and base including all labour and materials
Lighting for the monument including all labour and materials drawings and permits
Inspections fees and permits
Landscape restoration including all labour and materials
Barricades Health and Safety
Security if Required
Soil disposal if contaminated including all trucking
10% Administrative
20% Contingency
13% GST

If the project is approved in principal Administration will bring back a report to Council that outlines all associated costs for the project and any potential future financial commitments of the Town prior to the commencement of work.

## 6. **CONSULTATIONS:**

The following were consulted on this project:

(Interim) Chief Administrative Officer  
 (Interim) Director of Legislative Services and Clerk  
 Director of Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Culture  
 Manager of Tourism and Culture  
 Manager of Parks and Naturalized Areas  
 Members of the Amherstburg Italian Community at large

## 7. **CONCLUSION:**

In conclusion, Administration recognizes the importance of sculptures and monuments in enhancing the quality of life for Amherstburg residents. The sculpture will also provide a cultural and artistic enhancement to Kings Navy Yard Park that will be enjoyed by the public. The monument presents a unique opportunity to celebrate the rich history of Italian Immigrants and their contribution to the community.


  
 Heidi Baillargeon  
 Director of Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Culture

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	The Italian Heritage Monument Project .docx
Attachments:	- APPENDIX A - LOCATION IN KINGS NAVY YARD PARK.pdf - APPENDIX B - Artist Concept Drawing Nov 2021.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Dec 2, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Tiffany Hong

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Haddad', with a stylized, cursive script.

Tony Haddad

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie Critchley', with a cursive script.

Valerie Critchley