

Theme: Cultural Assets



Canoes on display at the Canadian Canoe Museum.

Where Are We Now?

The Greater Peterborough Area is rich in cultural assets, and ranks highly as one of Canada's top creative communities. Blessed with a strong heritage, vibrant downtowns, two First Nations communities, an active artistic community, and diverse populations, there are no shortages of cultural experiences to be found throughout the region. The City of Peterborough is currently wrapping up its first Municipal Cultural Plan, while the Township of Cavan Monaghan and Curve Lake First Nation recently undertook their first Cultural Mapping Exercises – indications that culture is emerging as a central topic in the community. The economic benefits associated with fostering a culturally rich community are becoming increasingly recognized, and accordingly, nurturing culture within the Greater Peterborough Area must remain a priority both now and in the future.

Where Do We Want to Be in 25 Years?

Our Goal: We will support, sustain and promote a wide breadth of community cultures.

How Are We Going to Get There?

By following our *Strategic Directions*:

- Support the Greater Peterborough Area as a centre for the arts.
- Maintain and enhance our cultural spaces.
- Recognize and celebrate our culture and diversity.
- Maintain the character of our heritage including our built heritage, our rural characteristics, and landscapes.

Priority Action

- All municipalities in the Greater Peterborough Area should consider developing a *Municipal Cultural Plan*.

Note: Greater details of the *Priority Actions* are outlined in Appendix A. Additional short- and long-term Actions are offered in the List of Potential Initiatives (Appendix B).

Toolbox Resources

- **Establishing a Heritage Committee** – Establish a heritage committee to help establish and protect heritage properties.
- **10 Things You Can Do To Support Culture** – Ways to support culture in your community, many at little or no cost.
- **Cultural Resource Mapping** – Identify, record, and classify your community's cultural resources in order to describe and visualize them.
- **Support Public Art** – How to create a municipal policy that supports public art through its installation, promotion and upkeep.

Sustainability in Action

- Established in 1967, Lang Pioneer Village celebrates the area's rural history. Operated by the County of Peterborough and located in the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, the village hosts thousands of visitors.
- The Curve Lake First Nation Cultural Centre offers community members and visitors an opportunity to learn about local and regional First Nations culture.
- The Kawartha Heritage Conservancy has created a database of cultural heritage features to identify and map these resources in the Kawarthas region.
- The City of Peterborough received unprecedented recognition for its support of heritage with the province's Lieutenant Governor's Award, and Heritage Canada's Prince of Wales Award, both in 2011.
- The City of Peterborough is launching their recently completed Municipal Cultural Plan focussing on culture's role in creating a liveable, sustainable community.
- Cavan Monahan and Curve Lake First Nation are undertaking cultural mapping exercises to identify and leverage cultural assets.

THEME: CULTURAL ASSETS

Goal

We will support, sustain and promote a wide breadth of community cultures.

Strategic Direction Supported

Recognize and celebrate our culture and diversity.

Priority Action

All municipalities in the Greater Peterborough Area should consider developing a *Municipal Cultural Plan*.

Description

The City of Peterborough is one of Canada's top creative cities. Venues, events, entertainment and eating establishments all contribute to creative people living and working in Peterborough. The Greater Peterborough Area is rich in cultural events and activities that are large draws from within the community and beyond. The quality of our heritage resources is an additional important attribute.

There is intense competition for skilled professionals and entrepreneurs within urban and rural areas across Canada. Many of the top professionals and entrepreneurs come from other cultures. It is important for the Greater Peterborough Area to be able to attract people from differing cultural backgrounds and retain them. Developing *Municipal Cultural Plans* is a great way of enhancing a community's culture and developing the tools necessary to promote it. The City of Peterborough is finishing its first *Municipal Cultural Plan*, while the Township of Cavan Monaghan has recently completed its first cultural mapping exercise. This action proposes that the other municipalities within the Greater Peterborough Area follow suit and pursue provincial and regional funding support to develop their own *Municipal Cultural Plans*.

Results from this action will support *Strategic Directions* under the following additional *Themes*:

- Economic Development & Employment
- Healthy Communities

Activities

- Apply for funding from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture
- Undertake cultural mapping exercises
- Promote and strengthen links with First Nations communities
- Develop Municipal Cultural Plans

Toolbox Resources

- **Creating a Municipal Cultural Plan** – City of Peterborough is in the process of creating a Municipal Cultural Plan
- **Establishing a Heritage Committee** – Establish a heritage committee to help establish and protect heritage properties
- **10 Things You Can Do To Support Culture**– Ways to support culture in your community, many at little or no cost
- **Cultural Resource Mapping** – Identify, record, and classify your community’s cultural resources in order to describe and visualize them
- **Support Public Art**–How to create a municipal policy that supports public art through its installation, promotion and upkeep

Potential Lead and Coordination

- County of Peterborough in collaboration with the Townships

Potential Partners

- Art Gallery of Peterborough
- City of Peterborough
- Community Opportunity and Innovation Network
- GPA EDC
- First Nations
- Fleming College
- Kawartha Heritage Conservancy
- Lang Pioneer Village
- Libraries
- Ministry of Tourism and Culture
- New Canadians Centre
- Peterborough Museum & Archives
- Peterborough Green-Up
- Regional Tourism Organization 8
- Trent University
- Trent Valley Archives

Measures of Success

- Funding is secured
- Cultural mapping exercises are undertaken
- Municipal Cultural Plans are developed