

Tell me about the proposed heritage bylaw....

On April 4, 2016 the Saint Andrews Town Council gave first reading to Bylaw 16-02, a Heritage Conservation Bylaw. This began an ongoing period of public review and consultation to ensure that any heritage bylaw could best meet the town's longterm heritage goals and resident's interests.

Q. What is this proposed bylaw all about?

Its primary goal is to maintain the historic appearance of St. Andrews that is central to the town's identity and economy. It will do this by conserving the distinctive outside features of heritage buildings, strictly on the sides seen by the public, and by ensuring that building additions and new nearby development doesn't significantly detract from the heritage value of these buildings and the town's historic streetscapes.

Q. Where can I get a copy?

The proposed bylaw is on the town website www.townofstandrews.ca on the Town Hall – Heritage page. A paper copy is available at the Town Hall. This is the version that received first reading in April 2016. Based on input received since, the Heritage Board will recommend minor, unsubstantial changes for a second reading.

Q. What is the bylaw process?

In May-June 2016, at the Town Council's direction, the Heritage Board directly contacted heritage property owners and held four public consultation sessions to gather feedback on the proposed bylaw. This was overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing the very high support documented in similar 2015 consultations. As a result, in July, the Board recommended that the Town Council proceed toward bylaw adoption. The Council is currently considering its next steps. A bylaw adoption process would involve any final text revisions, a formal public hearing and two additional readings over a number of months before the bylaw would take effect. No schedule has been set for this.

Q. What properties are included?

The primary focus is on properties that contribute significantly to the town's historic character by virtue of *recognition* (being on the Canadian Register of Historic Places), *age* (pre-1921) or, if built later, *special significance* to the town, the region or Canada. The proposed bylaw currently recognizes 296 of the over 340 heritage properties the Board has identified within the town.

Q. What will this bylaw make me do to my property?

Nothing. It only takes effect when you decide to do something to your property. Depending upon what you have planned, the bylaw might set some conditions or require a heritage permit.

Q. What if I want to make repairs or changes to my heritage building?

The bylaw's Section 8 exempts ordinary exterior maintenance and repairs to heritage buildings, along with renovations or replacements as long as these look the same. Bylaw Sections 6 and 7 identify what activities will need a heritage permit. These focus on maintaining the appearance of

certain architectural features only on the exterior views that face a public street or main driveway. The specific features for each building are listed in the St. Andrews Heritage Properties Inventory.

Q. I don't have a heritage property; will the bylaw affect me?

It may. If your property is within the Town Plat *and* near recognized heritage buildings, then any major changes you propose might be reviewed to ensure that these won't significantly detract from the heritage buildings and a heritage streetscape. In many cases these conditions are also included in the Zoning Bylaw.

Q. When will I need a heritage permit and how do I apply?

You will need a heritage permit for the activities identified in the bylaw. While the administrative process has yet to be finalized, the Board foresees that in most cases you will be able to get a heritage permit at the same time as a building permit, with no additional time requirement.

Q. If I want a variance, do I apply to the Heritage Board or the Planning Advisory Committee?

You may need to apply to both, as the Board and PAC operate independently, under different legislation. If your plans involve the heritage bylaw, you will need to get a heritage permit first.

Q. The downtown Historic Business District has heritage requirements now – will they change?

No. The proposed heritage bylaw supports the heritage requirements in the Zoning bylaw.

Q. What will this cost me?

No fee is proposed for a heritage permit: the town appreciates property owners' efforts to maintain the town's special heritage. The bylaw doesn't require the use of specific materials or colours that would influence construction or renovation costs. The Board can provide advice on heritage-friendly options to suit your budget and will have a small fund for heritage assistance grants.

Q. Is participation optional?

No. This will be a municipal bylaw, applicable to all indicated properties.

Q. Where can I get more information?

Contact the Heritage Board

by email: heritage@townofstandrews.ca

by mail: c/o Town Hall, 212 Water Street, St. Andrews, NB E5B 1B4

by phone: leave a message at the Town Hall (506) 529-5120 and your call will be returned