

Introduction

Old ideas can sometime use new buildings. New ideas must use old buildings – Jane Jacobs

The greenest building is the one that's already built. – Carl Elephante, US National Trust for Historic Preservation

Section I: Property Rights

Under the Ontario Heritage Act listing and protecting heritage properties is a municipal responsibility, not a private responsibility. A heritage property may be designated by the municipality over an owner's objection, and the owner may appeal the designation to the Conservation Review Board (for individual property designations) or the Ontario Municipal Board (for heritage district designations).

a) Do you agree that a municipal council should act if necessary to designate heritage property even where the owner disagrees?

No, private ownership should be respected. However when universities, municipalities or provincial or federal government own or control properties I believe there is an opportunity for designation.

Section II: Adequacy of Protection

a) How will you balance development pressures against the need to preserve archeological and heritage structures and neighbourhoods?

I believe that the heritage cmte could play a key role in developing a master plan to list those areas where the need for preservation is most acute. It seems the community only becomes aware when development is at hand. This is divisive and a plan^{that} demonstrates a particular feature in advance of development would be much more productive.

b) Do you think that Brantford's built and natural heritage features are adequately identified, and adequately protected? If not, what do you think should be done to improve the situation?

As above. I would support the Heritage Cmte with all its local history and expertise presenting a comprehensive master plan to council. The could list possible sites, sites we have failed to protect and sites where future development is imminent and a strategy to preserve these sites.

Section III: Role of Municipality

Under Ontario law, listing and protecting heritage property is primarily a municipal responsibility.

a) What do you think is the single most important action the municipal government could undertake to encourage heritage preservation in Brantford?

Encourage the Heritage Cmte to produce a Master plan that gives council strategies to preserve our heritage.

b) How do you think Brantford compares to other North American cities in its efforts to preserve its heritage? And do you have any examples of best practices that Brantford could adopt?

I am not able to comment as I have not done any research in this area. My sense is we are very good in some areas and need improvement in other areas of the city.

Section IV: Financial Incentives

a) Given the large amount of public support for heritage preservation, will you support funding, laws, policy, and appointments that encourage it? Please list any specific initiatives that you would propose.

funding laws and policy and appointments should all be made with an eye to work with our heritage partners in the context of all of the municipalities goals, objectives and budget decisions

b) Will you support financial assistance and advice to those who seek to conserve and restore their heritage properties?

I would love to learn more, in principal this is a concept that should be explored.

Section V: Adaptive Reuse

As our communities change, it may no longer be practical to use heritage buildings such as schools or churches for their original purpose.

a) Would you encourage the adaptive reuse of Brantford's built heritage when its traditional uses are no longer feasible?

I think Laurier has shown where possible (Wilkes and Bank of Commerce) (St. Johnson) re purpose is a great concept. However in the case of the Wyatt Purcell bldg I think Laurier made the correct decision.

Section VI: Heritage Conservation Districts

The Ontario Heritage Act enables municipal councils to protect not only individual properties but also districts of cultural heritage value or interest. Part V of the Act, entitled "Heritage Conservation Districts", deals with the protection and enhancement of an aggregate of buildings, streets and open spaces that as a group, represent a collective asset to a community in much the same way as an individually designated property.

a) Do you think that Heritage Conservation Districts help communities?

Yes, when properly rolled out and introduced to the community they can be successful. However the Lorne-Dufferin experience taught the community to be more open and transparent in order to succeed in designation

b) Do you have examples in your community of loss of heritage that you think should have been saved? If so, what would have been needed to change the outcome?

The South side is a classic example of poor communication and poor public participation and it divided our community. I think the timing of wanting designation came to late in the process to get a majority support of council. A more proactive approach with a Master Plan may have helped avoid the division (READ North Side of Elberne)

Section VII: Personal Commitment

This question addresses your personal involvement in heritage preservation.

a) What do you see as the value to the community of preservation of heritage properties? What have you done to save built heritage in Brantford?

Heritage Preservation is important to our community
and our history and a planned, thoughtful way to
reach our goals is important.

I did support the Wilkes house designation and
the Temple building thru city grants for these projects.

Signed: _____

Print Name: LARRY KINGS

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