



Report

Subject: Donation of Artwork

Department: Administration

Division: CAO

Report #: CAO-2025-004

Meeting Date: 2025-06-09

Recommendations

That report CAO-2025-004 Donation of Artwork be received; and

That the donation of a framed engraving of Queen Alexandra be accepted by Council as outlined in this Report; and

That the proper steps be completed to accept the donation as outlined by the Town's Artworks Policy and as clarified within this Report; and

That the donated artwork be displayed at Town Hall (87 Broadway, Orangeville, ON) on the main level.

Overview

An individual has offered to donate a framed engraving to the Town of Orangeville. Staff have reviewed the artwork and determined its suitability is in alignment with the Town's Artworks Policy and objectives by enhancing municipal spaces.

Background

The Town was contacted by Judith James who is in possession of a framed engraving depicting Queen Alexandra. Ms. James would like to donate this artwork to the Town of Orangeville, and in particular Town Hall, as the parkette at Town Hall is named for Queen Alexandra.

This artwork originally hung in the front hall of The Alexandra Palace, which was a luxury apartment building constructed in 1904 located on the west side of University Avenue in Toronto. The building was converted to an apartment style hotel in the 1920s, and in the 1950's the building was remodelled to be a modern office building and the furnishings, including the artwork, were sold to buyers. Ms. James' father

purchased the artwork and presented it as a gift to Ms. James' at her "Coming Out" celebration in 1953.

The artwork is an engraving from the original painting which hangs in the State Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace and was presented by Queen Alexandra as a birthday gift to His Majesty King Edward VII.

Analysis/Current Situation

The Town's Artwork Policy outlines the procedures followed in receiving donations from individuals or organizations. The policy indicates that the Town shall make a decision related to the acceptance of donations, demonstration of ownership, completion of release forms, arrangement for costs associated with the transportation and mounting of a donation, and acknowledgment of the donor.

In accordance with the Artworks Policy, the donor has provided background information on who the original painting was painted by and who created the engraving from the original painting. The Town is satisfied that Ms. James is the owner of the engraving.

Pursuant to the Artworks Policy, the donor and the Town shall enter into a Release, which states, in part, that: "As Town property, the item can be stored, exhibited, disposed of or deaccessioned at the direction of the Town." While the Town will make every reasonable effort to display the painting in accordance with the donor's wishes, the location of the artwork may change from time to time, and may eventually be disposed of or deaccessioned.

Staff will work with Ms. James to receive the artwork and hang the engraving on the main level at Town Hall (87 Broadway).

Corporate Implications

This report will not generate direct implications. If future actions related to this report will have a corporate impact, a report will be presented to Council for approval, if required.

Conclusion

In accordance with the Artworks Policy, all steps have been or will be taken to ensure the proper procedure has been followed to accept the donated artwork.

Strategic Alignment

Strategic Plan

Strategic Goal: Community Vitality

Objective: Vibrancy – Build a more inclusive community, and ensure citizen involvement

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan

Theme: Economic Development and Culture

Strategy: Further establish Orangeville's identity through the preservation and expansion of tourism, culture and heritage.

Notice Provisions

Not Applicable

Respectfully submitted,

David Smith
CAO

Prepared by:

Tracy Barry,
Executive Assistant, Mayor and CAO

Attachment(s): 1. Photo of artwork