

Local realtor wants residents to be aware of Heritage Register changes

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

The Town of Halton Hills is proposing adding 357 properties to its Heritage Register and is hosting upcoming public information sessions for the property owners on what the Register is all about.

The first session is set for 6:45 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13 at Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Gordon Alcott Heritage Hall). The date for the second session is not yet scheduled.

The Register is a listing of properties in town that have been identified as having heritage value. It's intended to assist the municipality in identifying its heritage resources, and is not the same as a designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

However, if someone has his property listed on the Heritage Register and wants to demolish the building, the Town can delay the issuance of a demolition permit for 60 days while conservation options are considered, including proceeding to designation or removing the property from the Register to allow for a permit to be issued.

There are no other restrictions on the listed property and an owner isn't required to obtain a heritage permit to alter the property. Also, no legal restrictions are registered on the property's title.

Local realtor Finn Poulstrup is urging residents whose property is proposed to be added to the list, to be aware of the implications.

He said being listed on the Register will have a "serious effect on what people will have to go through to be able to do certain things to their property," for

example to demolish it.

He believes the rules and regulations that go along with a property being listed on the Register will become more complex over time. Poulstrup said some people believe being listed on the Heritage Register adds value to their property.

"That's great. I'm more concerned about the people who don't know what's happening," said Poulstrup.

"I don't have an issue with Town staff or Council, but it (having a property on the list) does affect buyers and it does affect sellers. I'm sure in some cases it will affect the property salability positively, and in some cases negatively."



**FINN
POULSTRUP**

Throughout last summer and fall the Heritage Resources Centre at the University of Waterloo, which was contracted by the Town, has reviewed the Heritage Halton Hills property inventories and compiled a draft list of properties to be considered for addition to the Heritage Register.

A total of 357 properties are proposed for addition as part of the Phase 3 Heritage Registry Update.

On the list are:

- 329 properties from Heritage Halton Hills inventories
- 23 properties on Bower St. in Acton, which were evaluated as part of Phase 2
- 5 additional properties recommended for inclusion by Heritage Halton Hills

Eighteen additional properties were reviewed, but have not been recommended to be added to the Register.

A copy of the staff report on Halton Hills Heritage Register Update and the list of properties proposed to be included can be found at <http://haltonhills.ca/calendars/2014/PDS-2014-0001.pdf>.

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