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The Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg

March 6, 2013

Ontario Heritage Act Registrar

Ontario Heritage Trust

10 Adelaide Street East Toronto, ON M5C 1J3 ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST MAR 1 1 2013 RECEIVED

RE: COUNCIL Resolution – Pioneer Cemetery Heritage Designation

At the Tillsonburg Town Council Meeting of February 28, 2013, Council passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED THAT Council receive CL 13-05, Designation of Pioneer Cemetery;

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council approves in principle the designation of the Pioneer Cemetery as a heritage site within the Town of Tillsonburg.

Please take notice that Town Council intends to pass a by-law to designate the Pioneer Cemetery, as a heritage site within the Town of Tillsonburg, on the recommendation of the Tillsonburg Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (TACAC).

Description of Property

The Pioneer Cemetery is a small cemetery located at the corner of Simcoe and Cedar Streets. The cemetery spans approximately one acre and has over 125 people buried there.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Pioneer Cemetery is of cultural heritage value as it was started by the founding family of Tillsonburg; George and Nancy Tillson. The cemetery was created in 1838 at the request of Mrs. Tillson for the burial of her daughter Tamsen Sophronia. The cemetery was in use from 1838-1880 and includes the final resting ground of the Tillson and VanNorman families which have been honoured as the Founding Fathers and members of many of the earliest settlers.

The cemetery provides insight into the lives of the people of Tillsonburg during periods of increased burials due to epidemics and by showing the key historical themes through the various markers and monuments.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key attributes of the cemetery that reflect its value as an important link to the history of Tillsonburg include:

- its location, orientation and dimensions;
- its original markers and monuments, with their surviving inscriptions;
- and a wrought iron fence surrounding the plots of the founding families.

Notice was placed in the Tillsonburg Newspaper on Wednesday March 6, 2013, and added to the Town website. Objections to the designation need to be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk, Donna Wilson, by April 5th, 2013 at dewilson@tillsonburg.ca, or at the Customer Service Centre or Corporate Office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 688-3009 Ext. 3221

Regards,

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Amber Zimmer Deputy Clerk