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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY  
BY-LAW NUMBER 118-2012

A By-law to amend By-law 129-1991, being a By-law to designate certain property, known as the Chippewa Park Carousel, presently located at Chippewa Park, pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act* .

Recitals

1. Pursuant to By-law 129-1991, the Council for The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay designated property and structures known as the Chippewa Park Carousel, and located within Chippewa Park, in the City of Thunder Bay (hereinafter referred to as the “designating by-law”).
2. Pursuant to Section 30.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* , the Council may amend the designating by-law to include criteria for determining the cultural heritage value or interest of the designated property and structures (hereinafter referred to as “designating criteria”).
3. Council has determined that it is in the public interest to amend By-law 129-1991 to include designating criteria.
4. Council has deemed that The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay, as the owner of the Chippewa Park Carousel, has received notice as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act* of the proposed amendment to By-law 129-1991 and has no objection thereto.

ACCORDINGLY, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT By-law 129-1991 be and the same is hereby amended by:
  - (a) deleting the legal description contained in section 2, commencing with the words “*Parcel 3638...*” and ending with the words “*City of Thunder Bay, District of Thunder Bay*”, and by substituting therefore the legal description contained in Schedule “A” attached to, and forming part of this By-law, and
  - (b) inserting Schedule “B” – Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest of the Chippewa Park Carousel, attached to, and forming part of this By-law, as Schedule “A” to By-law 129-1991.

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2. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

Enacted and passed this 29th day of October, A.D. 2012 as witnessed by the Seal of the Corporation and the hands of its proper Officers.

  
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Acting Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Clerk

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Clerk



By-law Number 118-2012

**Schedule "A"**  
**Legal Description**

**Chippewa Park Carousel (Chippewa Park)**

Pcl 3638 Sec CFWF; Pt Fort William Indian Reserve Neebing as in PFW2704 (Thirdly);

Thunder Bay, being the whole of PIN 62261-0310 (LT).



**Schedule "B"**

**Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest of the Chippewa Park Carousel**

- 2 -

**(forming Schedule "A" to By-Law 129-1991)**

**Chippewa Park Carousel (Chippewa Park)**

Builder: C.W. Parker Company

Building description:

The Chippewa Park Carousel was built in the "County Fair" style, with 28 horses paired two abreast and two four-person bench seats in the style of chariots. All are mounted on a circular platform, 42" in diameter. The horses are posed to mimic galloping horses, including windblown manes, creating the illusion of movement. Many of the hand-carved wooden horses wear their original real metal horseshoes. The cantles of the horses' saddles feature carved dog's heads, corn cobs and fish. A rim of sectional panels circles the edge of the canopy. Each panel is adorned with carved dragons and flowers and rustic carved frames surrounding mirrors. The canopy consists of bright fabric panels of alternating colours. The mechanical equipment is concealed in the centre of the carousel behind an A-frame supported by a centre pole and illustrated decorative panels. The Carousel retains its original Eli motor drive and its inoperative Wurlitzer Band Organ. The Carousel is an excellent example of three-dimensional folk art.

The "County Fair" style of carousels was designed to be a 'sleeked down" version of the stationary carousels as seen in the Coney Island or Philadelphia styles; mobile, and able to be taken down, moved to the next location, and set up again. The County Fair style emerged in the late 1180s.

The property is designated for both its historical and architectural merit.

Notable architectural features:

- 28 hand-carved wooden horses
- real metal horseshoes on carousel horses
- horses posed to mimic galloping horses
- horses have hollow heads and necks, laminated bodies, solid tails and legs
- dog heads, fish and corn cobs carved into saddles of horses
- two four-person hand-carved wooden bench seats in the style of chariots
- decorated wooden panels on central A-frame of carousel
- rim of sectional panels circling edge of canopy
- carved dragons and flowers and rustic carved frames surrounding mirrors on sectional panels on edge of canopy
- fabric canopy of brightly coloured alternating panels
- Eli motor drive
- Wurlitzer Band Organ .

Historical value:

Built between 1918 and 1920, the Carousel was built by C.W. Parker, who called himself the "Amusement King". The Carousel was purchased by the Fort William Parks Board from Mrs. King's Travelling Carnival which went into bankruptcy while operating at Chippewa Park in 1934.

During the period in which the Chippewa Park Carousel was built by C.W. Parker, his company employed World War I German prisoners of war as skilled woodworkers to carve his creations. Between 1895 and 1926, the C.W. Parker Carnival and Supply Company of Leavenworth, Kansas, constructed approximately 800 carousels (also known as "Carry-us-Alls"), but only three are known to remain intact; the Chippewa Park Carousel is one of those.

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, the demand for carousels and other amusement park rides significantly declined. This, coupled with the trend towards mechanization and mass-production, with cheaper materials, devalued the art of carousel construction. Folk art collectors began to purchase individual carousel animals, increasing the rarity of a complete, intact carousel.

The Chippewa Park Carousel as an amusement park ride also has a cultural significance. Amusement parks provide a visible record of modern North American culture, reflecting broader trends in social history and acting as extravagant and flamboyant alternatives to the ordinary and routine lives of park patrons. Amusement parks and their rides are symbols of both urbanization and industrialization, two major processes that shaped the modern world and which rose to significance beginning in the mid-19th century.

Contextual value:

The Carousel has been located at Chippewa Park since its purchase in 1934 from a travelling carnival owned by Mrs. Maude E. King that went bankrupt. However, because the Chippewa Park Carousel is a moveable structure, the property on which it resides can be changed. Should the City decide to move the Carousel to another permanent location, the designation property description may be altered.

Prepared by Kimberly Costa  
October 3, 2012

Final revised version as adopted by the  
Heritage Advisory Committee  
at its meeting held on October 3, 2012