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**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GRAVENHURST  
BY-LAW 2018-62**

Being a By-law to designate Church of Our Lady)  
Located on Part of Lot 5, Concession 15, in the former  
Township of Wood, now in the Town of Gravenhurst,  
District of Muskoka under the Ontario Heritage Act

**WHEREAS** Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. 9, as amended, authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact a by-law to designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

**AND WHEREAS** Church of Our Lady located at 3411 Southwood Road on Part of Lot 5, Concession 15, in the former Township of Wood, now in the Town of Gravenhurst, District of Muskoka, has been identified by the Town of Gravenhurst Municipal Heritage Committee as being eligible for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

**AND WHEREAS** Notice of Intention to pass a Designation By-law was given in accordance with Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

**AND WHEREAS** no Notice of Objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Town;

**AND WHEREAS** this By-law is to be registered in the proper Land Registry Office with respect to the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto;


**AND WHEREAS** the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest is set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto;

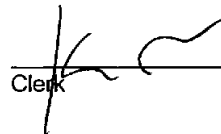
**AND WHEREAS** the Description of Heritage Attributes is set out in Schedule "C" attached hereto;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GRAVENHURST ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

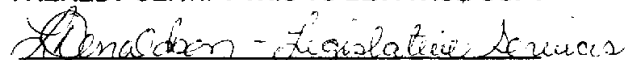
1. Church of Our Lady, municipally known as 3411 Southwood Road, more particularly described in Schedule "A", be designated as a structure of significant cultural heritage value and interest as described in Schedule "B".
2. The heritage attributes described in Schedule "C" form part of this By-law.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law together with its schedules to be registered against the property in the Land Registrar's Office and shall serve a copy of the By-law together with its schedules upon the property owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust.
4. The By-law shall take full force and effect on the final date of passage hereof.

**READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME** and finally passed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

  
Deputy Mayor

  
Clerk

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THIS TO BE A TRUE COPY**



Date at the Town of Gravenhurst  
in the District of Muskoka

on 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August 20 18

**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**By-law No 2018-62**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Part of Lot 5, Concession 15, in the former Township of Wood, now in the Town of Gravenhurst, District Municipality of Muskoka.

3411 Southwood Road

Roll No. 020-043-08100

**SCHEDULE "B"**  
**By-law No 2018-62**

**STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE**

In the early 1900's, Southwood, Muskoka, was a thriving small community that attracted immigrants because of its proximity to the CNR/Grand Trunk rail line, inexpensive property and romantic visions of life in Canada. Many of these adventurers were from England where they attended the renowned High Anglican All Saints Church in London. Wanting a place of their own to worship in their new neighborhood, they first held services in the homes of the Ernest Chapman and Percy Tonge families and were first pastored by Rev. James Hutton from Bala. In 1928, local volunteers built a "dugout" type log structure on 2.5 acres of land given to the Diocese of Algoma by the Ontario government. The church floor was built 5 feet underground with exterior log walls measuring about 5 feet high with a small bell turret of unstained boards, and two small windows, one on each side. This became the High Anglican Church called Church of Our Lady. The present "latch gate" type sign near the road marks the location of this first church building.

By 1936, a new log church was built to replace the original building when it's unpeeled logs began to rot. This building is situated farther back from the road.

The Town of Gravenhurst acquired the property in July 2000 when the church was deconsecrated due to the lack of parishioners and finances. The building was again renovated in 2010 and is now preserved by a group of interested volunteers called "Friends of Southwood Church". Through their fund raising and donations, they are able to lease the land back from the Town of Gravenhurst which still controls the small cemetery containing the graves of several pioneers surrounding the Church building.

**SCHEDULE "C"**  
**By-law No 2018-62**

**DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES**

Church of Our Lady is a fine example of a pioneer log church, and is one of the few log structures still in existence throughout Gravenhurst.

The present "latch gate" type sign near the road marks the location of the first church building.

The pine pews, organ, lectern, the Bible, the Madonna Statue and liturgical items are all original.

The brass bell was retrieved from a swamp nearby, having landed there as a result of a train accident on the tracks nearby. It was then donated by the Canadian National Railway.