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The Corporation of the  
City of Sault Ste. Marie



LEGAL DEPARTMENT

**REGISTERED MAIL**

July 22, 2021

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST  
AUG 17 2021  
**RECEIVED**

Provincial Heritage Registrar  
The Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5C 1J3

Dear Sir/Madam:

**RE: DESIGNATION OF WAWANOSH MONUMENT – 96 GREAT NORTHERN  
ROAD, SAULT STE. MARIE**

On June 28, 2021, City Council passed By-law 2021-133 to designate the above property as being of architectural or historic value or interest in the City of Sault Ste. Marie. The By-law was registered on July 21, 2021 as Instrument No. AL231934.

All matters to effect the designation under the Ontario Heritage Act have now been completed and therefore, pursuant to Section 29 of the Act, I am enclosing a certified registered copy of the By-law.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K Fields".

Karen Fields,  
City Solicitor

KF/da  
Enclosure  
c. Virginia McLeod, Manager of Recreation & Culture

LEGAL\STAFF\LEGAL\HERITAGE DESIGNATION\HD - HERITAGE DESIGNATION GENERAL\GREAT NORTHERN RD  
WAWANOSH MONUMENT\LETTER ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST - JULY 22 2021.DOCX

The applicant(s) hereby applies to the Land Registrar.

**Properties**

PIN                    31531 - 0019    LT  
Description        LT 104 RCP H732 ST. MARY'S; SAULT STE. MARIE  
Address            96 GREAT NORTHERN RD  
                         SAULT STE. MARIE

**Applicant(s)**

This Order/By-law affects the selected PINs.

Name                    THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE  
Address for Service    Legal Department, Level 4, Civic Centre  
                                 99 Foster Drive, Sault Ste. Marie    ON  
                                 P6A 5X6

This document is being authorized by a municipal corporation Melanie Borowicz-Sibenik, Assistant City Solicitor.  
This document is not authorized under Power of Attorney by this party.

**Statements**

This application is based on the Municipality By-law See Schedules.

**Signed By**

Melanie Ann Borowicz-Sibenik	Civic Centre - 99 Foster Drive Sault Ste. Marie P6A 5X6	acting for Applicant(s)	Signed	2021 07 14
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Tel            705-759-5400  
Fax           705-759-5405

I have the authority to sign and register the document on behalf of the Applicant(s).

**Submitted By**

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE MARIE	Civic Centre - 99 Foster Drive Sault Ste. Marie P6A 5X6	2021 07 21
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Tel            705-759-5400  
Fax           705-759-5405

**Fees/Taxes/Payment**

Statutory Registration Fee	\$65.30
Total Paid	\$65.30

**File Number**

Applicant Client File Number :                    HERITAGE DESIGNATION

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

BY-LAW NO. 2021-133

**HERITAGE DESIGNATION:** A by-law to designate to designate the Wawanosh Monument located at the northwest corner of 96 Great Northern Road and Willoughby intersection as being of architectural or historic value or interest.

**WHEREAS** Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O. 18 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest;

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and upon The Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to so designate the property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the Sault Star for one time;

**WHEREAS** no objections to the proposed designations have been served on the Clerk of the municipality; and

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act* ENACTS as follows:

1. **PROPERTIES DESIGNATED**

There is designated as being of architectural or historic value or interest, the monument described above and further described in Schedule "A" to this by-law.

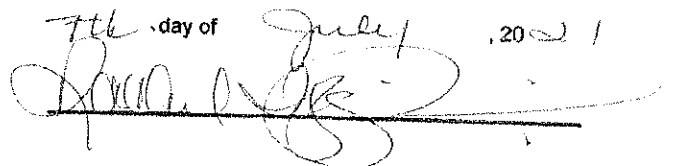
2. **HERITAGE DESIGNATION REPORT**

The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie Council Report of May 10, 2021 which includes the Heritage Designation Report of the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee recommending that the Wawanosh Monument be designated of significant cultural heritage value and interest pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act is attached as Schedule "B" to this by-law.

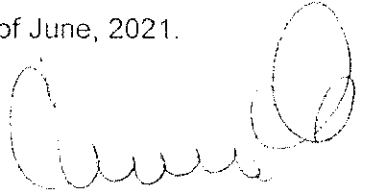
3. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This by-law takes effect on the date of its final passing.

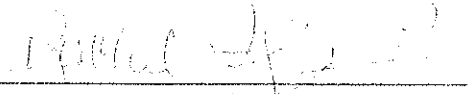
I, Rachel Tyczinski, City Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of the original document of which it purports to be a copy.  
Dated at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, this

7th day of July, 2021  


**PASSED** in Open Council this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.



**MAYOR – CHRISTIAN PROVENZANO**



**CITY CLERK – RACHEL TYCZINSKI**

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 2021-133

**WAWANOSH MONUMENT**

The Wawanosh Monument is a small monument made of local sandstone dedicated to Rebecca and George Hardiman the first matron and superintendent of the Wawanosh home. The monument is located at the intersection of Great Northern Road and Willoughby Street by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 25 and was built and dedicated in 1967 by the Women's Tarentorus Institute.

Schedule "B" to By-law 2021-133



The Corporation of the  
City of Sault Ste. Marie

## COUNCIL REPORT

5/10/2021

TO: Mayor Christian Provenzano and Members of City Council  
AUTHOR: Virginia McLeod, Manager of Recreation and Culture  
DEPARTMENT: Community Development and Enterprise Services  
RE: Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV Designation of Wawanosh Monument

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### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to designate the Wawanosh Monument located at 96 Great Northern Road under the Ontario Heritage Act, due to its significant heritage value to the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

### Background

The Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee (S.S.M.M.H.C.) advises City Council as to the cultural heritage value or interest of properties within the Municipality, and recommends the designation of significant properties under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. This affords the property, and in particular, the designated heritage features special protection under the Act. The Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee is recommending to City Council the designation of the Machine Shop located at 83 Huron Street due to its significant heritage value to the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

In September of 2020, the Municipal Heritage Committee received a designation application for the Wawanosh Monument located at 96 Great Northern Road. The Municipal Heritage Committee reviewed the application at the September 9, 2020 meeting and requested additional information. Madison Bifano submitted the Heritage Designation Application. The Royal Canadian Legion of Sault Ste. Marie Branch 25 owns the property. The property owners are supportive of this application and email confirmation was received from Helen Stewart, President and Pierre Breckenridge, 1st Vice president.

The S.S.M.M.H.C. passed the following resolution at their meeting on November 4, 2020:

Moved By: D. Greenwood

Seconded By: M. Jones

"Resolved that the Municipal Heritage Committee, based on the designation application submitted, move forward with the intent to designate the Wawanosh Monument located at 96 Great Northern Road and proceed with the preparation of the designation report; and further that D. Greenwood and S. Meades be assigned to review and complete the designation report."

The S.S.M.H.C. reviewed the final designation report at their March 3, 2021 meeting and passed the following resolution:

Moved By: Councilor M. Shoemaker  
Seconded By: K. Kazmierowski

"Resolved that the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee approve the designation report for the Wawanosh Monument, located on the Northeast corner of Great Northern Road and Willoughby Street and that the Monument be recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act; and further that a report be sent to City Council to request their approval to proceed with the designation."

CARRIED

### **Analysis**

The attached designation report provides a detailed overview of the History of the Wawanosh Home, Chief Wawanosh, description of the cultural heritage value and key heritage attributes.

### Statement of Cultural Value or Interest

The monument is constructed of local sandstone, which has been considered historically significant for other heritage properties. The cultural context of the monument is more important than the monument itself. The monument commemorates the location of the former Wawanosh Indian Residential School, which was constructed by Reverend E.F. Wilson in 1879 and was named after Chief Wawanosh a prominent Chippewa chief and veteran of the War of 1812. The Wawanosh Home was the first iteration of a girl's residential school in the area and was built to accommodate Aboriginal girls due to a lack of space for female students at Shingwauk Residential School.

The Wawanosh Home experienced difficulties with funding both prior to opening due to a lack of funds delaying construction, which began in 1877, for two years and a low enrolment after opening. The school would be moved to the site of the Shingwauk School in 1900 and the two schools were officially merged in 1935 with the construction of a new building. A report in 1883 found that 83% of girls that had attended the Wawanosh Home had died or left the Home within five years.



Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV Designation of Wawanosh Monument  
May 10, 2021  
Page 3.

The residential school remained there until 1901 when the girls were moved to the Shingwauk Residential School site on Queen Street. The school The Wawanosh home was demolished in 1965.

The Wawanosh Home was part of the Residential School System, which operated in Canada from the early 1800s until 1996, and aimed to assimilate Indigenous children into Euro-Canadian culture. The Residential School System has been acknowledged as a National Historic Event by the Government of Canada.

The monument serves as a reminder of what once stood on the site, and of the legacy of the Residential School system in Sault Ste Marie and Canada. Designating the monument as a heritage property would fall under the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 79, which calls for the commemoration of Residential School sites and history and working with Indigenous organizations to recognize what has happened.

**Financial Implications**

There is no immediate budget impact. The property owner would be eligible to apply for a Designated Property Grant in the event the monument required repairs.

**Strategic Plan / Policy Impact**

Focus Area – Quality of Life: Promotion of our City's arts, culture, historic and heritage sites is an essential component in achieving economic health.

**Recommendation**

It is therefore recommended that Council take the following action:

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Recreation and Culture dated May 10, 2021 concerning Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV Designation of Wawanosh Monument be received and that the recommendation by the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee to designate the Wawanosh Monument under the Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act be approved.

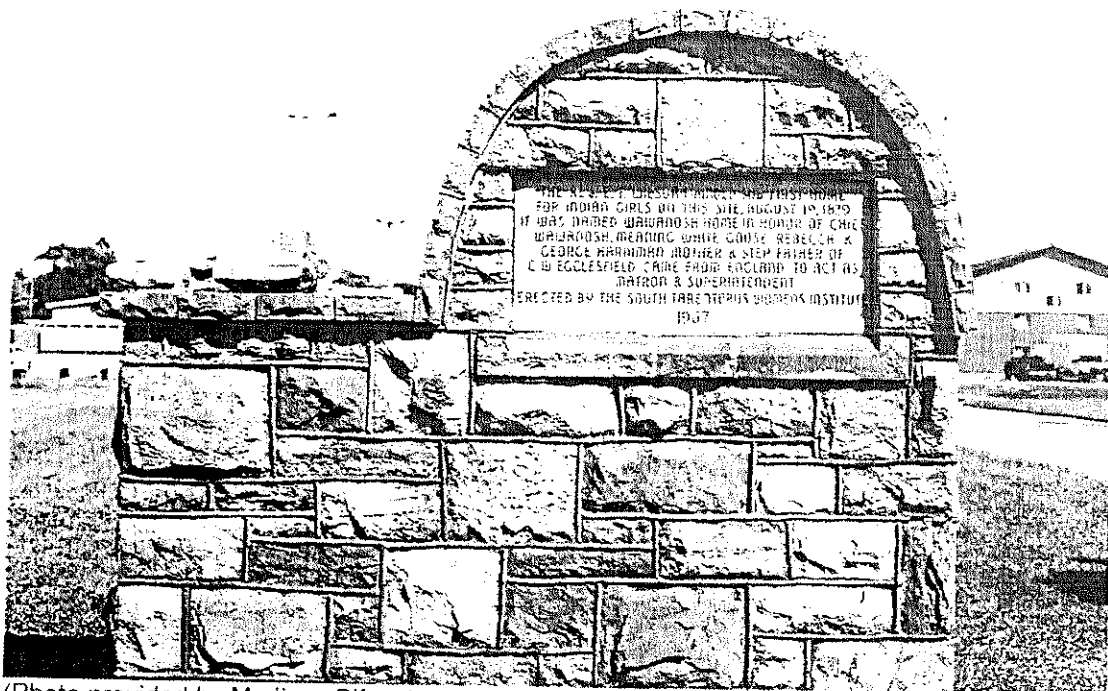
Respectfully submitted,



Virginia McLeod  
Manager of Recreation and Culture  
705.759-5311  
[v.mcleod@cityssm.on.ca](mailto:v.mcleod@cityssm.on.ca)

# Wawanosh Monument

## Designation Report



(Photo provided by Madison Bifano)

Location: Northwest corner of 96 Great Northern Road and Willoughby intersection.

Researched and Submitted by: Maddy Bifano

## History of the Wawanosh Home

"While Reverend Wilson did accept girls at Shingwauk, only a few came that first year and none thereafter. In reality, there was little space for female students at this Boys' Home.

To accommodate girls, a separate residential school building was established on a 15-acre site 5 km away, just north of the village centre. It was named the Wawanosh Home for Girls. Construction of this grand two-storey stone building commenced in spring 1877 and the first ten girls arrived that fall, before work was completed. The building fund was depleted in 1878, prompting new subscriptions for funding. As the federal Government was now more involved in native affairs (following passage of the recent Indian Act of 1876), it agreed to make an annual grant to the Wawanosh Home, provided enrolment was not less than fifteen. The Home was officially opened on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1879 with 14 girls in residence.

In his quest to expand and streamline school facilities, Reverend Wilson soon realized that the isolated Wawanosh Home with its limited enrolment should be sold off. He formulated plans in the late 1880s to move the girls to larger facilities at the main Shingwauk site on the St. Mary's River. There was little support for this school expansion program, probably due to the recession in the 1890s. Reverend Wilson resigned as Principal in March 1893, owing to ill health and frustration over not being able to consolidate the Boys and Girls Homes. This task would be achieved by others, a few years later." - *Anglican Church of Canada - Truth and Reconciliation - Shingwauk IRS* - <https://www.anglican.ca/tr/histories/shingwauk/>

"The Wawanosh School for girls was opened in 1879 at a site not far from the Shingwauk school in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. An 1883 study showed that eighty-three per cent of the girls who had attended the school had either died or left the Wawanosh Home in less than five years. When a new addition was built for the girls in 1900 it was discovered that there was no way to heat it. In 1900 the girl's school moved to the Shingwauk site. In 1935, the two schools were merged to create the Shingwauk Residential School, which was housed in a new building." - *National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation* - <https://memorial.nctr.ca/?p=1342>

## Chief Wawanosh

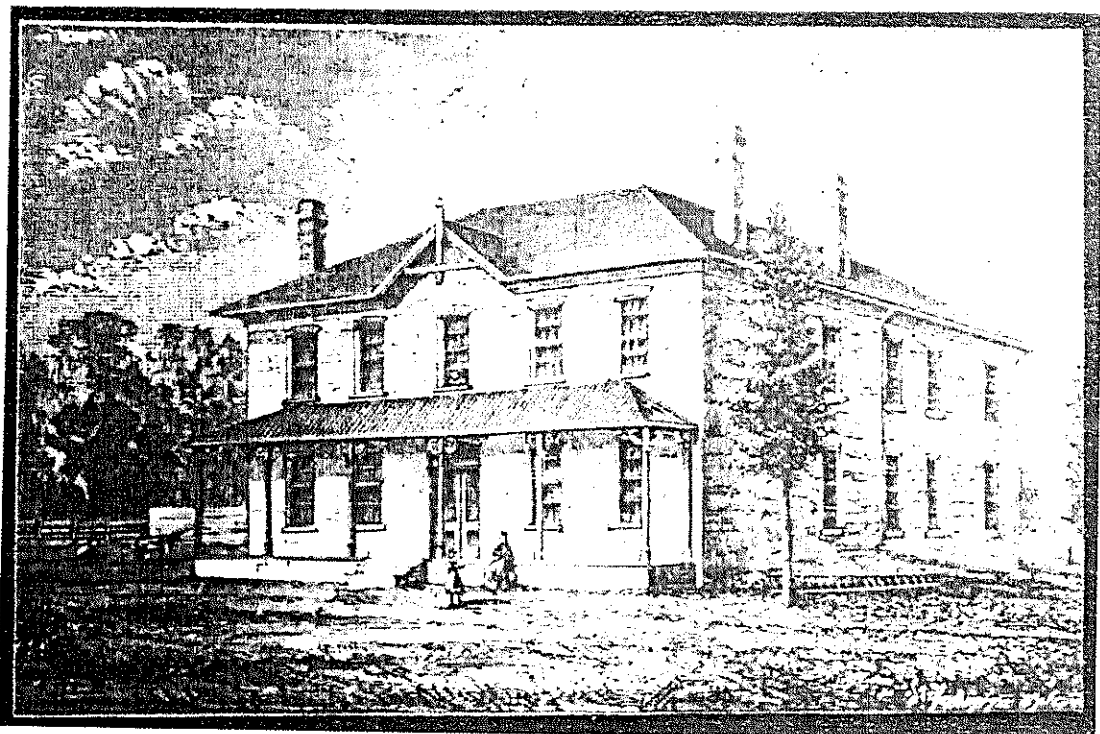
Chief Wawanosh (other known names: Joshua Wawanosh, Joshua Waywaynosh) was born along the shores of Lake Superior in the 1780s<sup>1</sup>, but moved south and settled on

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<sup>1</sup> Jean Turnbull Elford. "Chief Wawanosh and the Treaty of 1827". *Sarnia Historical Society*

Lake Huron in the Sarnia/Walpole Island region<sup>2</sup>. The name for the school was likely chosen due to the time Rev. E. F. Wilson spent in the Walpole Island area. He fought in the War of 1812, and became chief shortly after the fact. "One of the chiefs for St. Clair Regional Band was Joshua Wawanosh. Wawanosh had a remarkable and checkered career as a leader of the St. Clair Chippewas. He became a chief shortly after the war of 1812 in part because of his military service on behalf of the Crown in the war of 1812. By the mid-1820s, Crown officials and other Chippewa chiefs recognized Wawanosh as the Head Chief."<sup>3</sup> During his time as head chief, Wawanosh maintained 4 reserves of land for his people, all in what is now Lambton County. He remained monolingual in Ojibwe his whole life, and died in 1871<sup>4</sup>.

#### Photos of Wawanosh IRS



A drawing of the Wawanosh home done by E.F. Wilson. *Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre, 2011-16/001(015)*

<sup>2</sup> Lisa Philips Valentine; Allan K. McDougall. "Wawanosh's Box". *University of Western Ontario*.

<sup>3</sup> "The Cheppewas of Sarnia Band vs. Queen et. al" *Court of Appeal for Ontario*

<sup>4</sup> Peter S. Schmalz (1991). *The Ojibwa of Southern Ontario*. University of Toronto Press.



Photograph of the building after it was sold and repurposed by the Children's Aid Society, ca.1940. *Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre, 2010-021/001(163)*

#### **Description of Property**

The Wawanosh monument is a small monument made of local sandstone dedicated to Rebecca and George Hardeman the first matron and superintendent of the Wawanosh home. The monument is located at the intersection of Great Northern Road and Willoughby Street by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 25 and was built and dedicated in 1967 by the Tarentorus Women's Institute.

#### **Statement of Cultural Value or Interest**

The monument is constructed of local sandstone which has been considered historically significant for other heritage properties. The cultural context of the monument is more important than the monument itself. The monument commemorates the location of the former Wawanosh Indian Residential School, which was constructed by Reverend E.F. Wilson in 1879 and was named after Chief Wawanosh a prominent Chippewa chief and veteran of the War of 1812. The Wawanosh Home was the first iteration of a girl's residential school in the area and was built to accommodate Aboriginal girls due to a lack of space for female students at Shingwauk Residential School.

The Wawanosh Home experienced difficulties with funding both prior to opening due to a lack of funds delaying construction, which began in 1877, for two years and a low enrolment after opening. The school would be moved to the site of the Shingwauk School in 1900 and the two schools were officially merged in 1935 with the construction of a new building. A report in 1883 found that 83% of girls that had attended the Wawanosh Home had died or left the Home within five years.

The residential school remained there until 1901 when the girls were moved to the Shingwauk Residential School site on Queen Street. The school The Wawanosh home was demolished in 1965.

The Wawanosh Home was part of the Residential School System, which operated in Canada from the early 1800s until 1996, and aimed to assimilate Indigenous children into Euro-Canadian culture. The Residential School System has been acknowledged as a National Historic Event by the Government of Canada.

The monument serves as a reminder of what once stood on the site, and of the legacy of the Residential School system in Sault Ste. Marie and Canada. Designating the monument as a heritage property would fall under the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 79, which calls for the commemoration of Residential School sites and history and working with Indigenous organizations to recognize what has happened.

#### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key attributes that express the value of the monument as a reminder of the Residential School system and its connection to Sault Ste. Marie's history include:

- The monument serves as a reminder of what once stood on the site, and of the legacy of the Residential School system in Sault Ste. Marie and Canada.
- It is constructed of local sandstone similar to other historical monuments and plaques in Sault Ste. Marie and is designed to be aesthetically pleasing and is in fairly good condition
- The monument mentions both the first matron and superintendent of the school and the fact that the Wawanosh Home was one of the first all-girls residential schools in Canada.

