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Township of Springwater

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REC'D/RECEIVED

28 -09- 2006

VIA CANADA POST

September 20, 2006

Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

Dear Sir / Madam:

**RE: DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC EASTERN LARCH (McGUIRE TREE)
2 AMELIA STREET, ELMVALE**

At the meeting of September 18, 2006, Springwater Township Council passed By-law No. 2006-084 to designate the historic Eastern Larch tree, located at 2 Amelia Street in Elmvale, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

A copy of By-law No. 2006-084 is enclosed for your reference. Please accept this letter as our notice to the Ontario Heritage Trust as required under section 29. (6) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (705) 728-4784 ext. 2039 or cbegley@springwater.ca.

Sincerely,

Conor P. Begley, B.A., D.P.A.
Research & Policy Analyst

Encl.

RA

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER

BY-LAW NO. 2006-084

Being a by-law to designate the property located in South Part of Lot 6, Concession 9, former Village of Elmvale, now in the Township of Springwater, in the County of Simcoe, and known municipally as 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale, and being Property Roll No. 43 41 040 001 540 00 0000, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

(Heritage Designation – McGuire Tree – 2 Amelia Street)

WHEREAS Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O., as amended, provides that by-laws may be passed by Council designating properties of historic or architectural value;

AND WHEREAS the Eastern Larch (Tamarack) known as the McGuire Tree located in South Part of Lot 6, Concession 9 in the former Village of Elmvale, now in the Township of Springwater, and known municipally as 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale, and being Property Roll No. 43 41 040 001 540 00 0000 has been identified by the Township of Springwater Heritage Committee (LACAC) as being eligible for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

AND WHEREAS Notice of Intention to pass a Designation Bylaw was given in accordance with Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in the manner as set out in Schedule "C" of this By-law on the 10th day of August, 2006;

AND WHEREAS the property owner supports the heritage designation process;

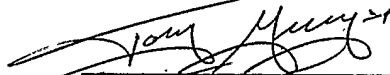
AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater deems it desirable to designate the lands with the Eastern Larch (Tamarack) known as the McGuire Tree as a property of historical and architectural value and interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater enacts as follows:

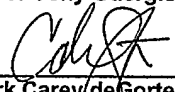
1. THAT the property with an Eastern Larch (Tamarack) known as the McGuire Tree located in South Part of Lot 6, Concession 9 in the former Village of Elmvale, now in the Township of Springwater, and known municipally as 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale, and having the legal description set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law, is a property of historic and architectural value and interest.
2. THAT the Reasons for Designation set out in Schedule "B," attached hereto and forming part of this By-law, are hereby adopted.
3. THAT the Clerk shall cause a copy of this By-law, together with its Schedules to be registered against the property in the Land Registrar's Office for Simcoe County and shall serve a copy of the By-law together with its Schedules upon the property owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust.
4. THAT the Bylaw shall take force and effect upon final passage hereof.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 18TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2006

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER



Mayor Tony Guergis



Clerk Carey deGorter

Township of Springwater
By-law No. 2006-084

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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER

BY-LAW NO. 2006-084

SCHEDULE "A"

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

South Part of Lot 6, Concession 9, former Village of Elmvale, Township of Springwater,
County of Simcoe.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER

BY-LAW NO. 2006-084

SCHEDULE "B"

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Historical Background

The "McGuire Tree" is located on private property in front of the residence located at 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale (formerly 8 Amelia Street). This tree is believed to be one of the largest Eastern Larch (Tamarack) trees in Ontario. It survived a serious outbreak of larch sawfly that plagued the area during the years 1895 to 1912. The reason for its survival may have been the fact that it was a single tree distant from others in the area.

The Eastern Larch (*Larix laricina*) is the only deciduous conifer that is native to Ontario. It often goes by the common names of Tamarack and American Larch. The tree turns a beautiful yellow in fall before the needles drop by winter. Specimens found in the open may grow to 70 feet tall by 20 feet wide, with a narrowly pyramidal growth habit. As a member of the Pine Family, it is related to other Larches, as well as the Firs, Spruces, Pines, and Hemlocks.

The McGuire tree is believed to have been planted in the 1870s. In October 1979, the tree was approximately 100 years old and had the following measurements:

Girth 8'3"
Diameter 31.5" (measured 4" from the ground)
Height 59.5'
Average Crown Spread 42.5'

The tree is recorded as having been planted by William "Miner Bill" Ritchie (1842 -1929). Miner Bill, so called because of 13 years as a carpenter in the mines in Sudbury, and to distinguish himself from other William Ritchies in the Elmvale area, had a business arrangement with his father-in-law, who operated a saw mill on the banks of the Wye River. Many of the homes and barns in the Elmvale area were built by Miner Bill Ritchie.

The house located at 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale was built by the McGuires at this prominent location on the corner of Queen Street West and Amelia Street during World War I, in 1915. The cost of building the house was \$5,000.00.

William J. and Mary McGuire were married in Elmvale in 1905 and had a drug store on the main street of the village. Mrs. McGuire's parents, the Masons, lived next door on Amelia Street and both homes were built at the same time. A single driveway and artesian well serviced both homes. Donald McGuire, the son of William J. and Mary took over his parents' original pharmacy and later built a new pharmacy across the street. The Whitfield Pharmacy operates today at this same location.

Some of the features of the McGuire house include:

- Bomb shelter under the porch with reinforced walls and ceiling
- Four bedrooms on upper floor
- Sun porch on second storey
- Approximately 8" baseboards
- Oak woodwork in dining room
- Mahogany woodwork in living room
- Southern birch (Georgia birch) used for all woodwork in the central hall
- Beveled edge on glass in long window by the porch
- Stained glass panels above window in south side and den (front room) and box hall
- Original dumb waiter to the root cellar, now steps
- Artesian flow from the house next door (6 Amelia Street) south to 2 Amelia Street was used as a refrigerator in the basement to keep food cool

Designated Features:

Eastern Larch (*Larix laricina*) located at the edge of the property.

The McGuire house is not being designated at this time.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER

BY-LAW NO. 2006-084

SCHEDULE "C"

AFFIDAVIT

I, Carey deGorter, Clerk of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater, hereby swear or affirm that Notice of Intention to pass a by-law under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act was given in accordance with Subsection 29(3) of the Act, as follows:

1. Notice of Intention to pass a designation by-law for the "McGuire Tree" located at South Part of Lot 6, Concession 9 in the former Village of Elmvale, now in the Township of Springwater, and known municipally as 2 Amelia Street, Elmvale, was published in the August 10, 2006 edition of The Springwater Source in the Springwater News; and
2. Notice of Intention, together with a copy of the proposed Designation By-law and Schedules, were sent on the 10th day of August, 2006 to:
 - (i) [REDACTED] (property owner)
 - (ii) Ontario Heritage Trust
 - (iii) Ontario Heritage Tree Alliance
3. Notice of Intention, together with a copy of the proposed Designation By-law and Schedules, were posted on or before the 18th day of August, 2006 at the following locations:
 - (i) Township Offices, Midhurst
 - (ii) Springwater Public Library branches (Midhurst, Minesing, Elmvale)
 - (iii) Township Municipal Web Site
4. Notice of Intention was provided in the Agenda package for the August 22, 2006 meeting of the Springwater Heritage Committee (LACAC).

SWORN OR AFFIRM before me
at Midhurst, Ontario in the Township of Springwater,
in the County of Simcoe
this 18th day of September, 2006


COMMISSIONER OF OATHS


Clerk Carey deGorter

JENNIFER CONNOR, A COMMISSIONER,
AND DEPUTY CLERK, THE CORPORATION
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER.