



**Date:** September 10, 2024

**To:** Mayor Sherry Senis and Council Members

**From:** Angela Chittick, Manager of Community & Corporate Services/Clerk

**Subject:** Charitable Receipting – Gateway Structures Lakefield

**Status:** For Direction

**Roll No.:** N/A

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## Recommendation

That the report of the Manager of Community & Corporate Services/Clerk related to the charitable receipting for Lakefield gateway structures be received for information; and

That approval be given to accept donations, issue receipts under the Township's Official Receipts Policy and use the collected funds for the update/replacement of two Lakefield gateway structures and that an update be provided to Council as part of the 2025 Capital meeting on the status of the fundraising/in-kind support and pending on the level of support, consideration be given to include this as a 2025 Capital Budget project.

## Information

There are two stone gateway structures in Lakefield located on Queen Street (near Stewart Drive) and Water Street (near Block Road). Staff believe that they were constructed in the late 1980's early 1990's with the support of some kind of grant/program. Although not verified, it is understood that a local stone mason worked with apprentices, perhaps from SSFC, to construct these two stone structures. The stone structures were to act as gateways to the entrances to the former Village of Lakefield and were designed to mimic a lock door to highlight the waterway and locking systems that runs through the Village. Since this time, the grouting has deteriorated and the 'wooden lock door' portion at the Block/Water Street location was damaged and removed after the 2022 windstorm (Derecho). Some residents have expressed interest in supporting the refurbishment of these structures.

The Queen Street (near Stewart Drive) structure supports the green wooden gateway sign that the Lakefield Horticultural Society raised funds for as shown below. The green sign was removed in 2024 for repairs and has not been reinstalled pending repair of the stonework.

Picture of the gateway structure at Queen and Stewart Street



Picture of the gateway structure at Water and Block Road (prior to 2022 windstorm damage – note wooden portion damaged and removed)



Local residents have expressed interest in seeking donations from interested residents/community organizations to contribute to the costs to refurbish the structures. In addition, there has also been interest from a few residents to help reconstruct the wooden portion of the structure located on Water Street as an in-kind service. A mason will be required to re-grout the stonework (stone is expected to be reused). It is recommended that Council endorse accepting funds and issuing tax receipts for donations to support this effort. Staff would provide an update to Council as part of the 2025 Capital meeting on the status of the fundraising/in-kind support and pending on

the level of support, consideration be given to include this as a 2025 Capital Budget project.

### **Financial Impact**

A local mason provided a high-level estimate of between \$12,000 to \$15,000 for the repair in 2022. If in-kind support for the reconstruction of the wooden structure can be secured the overall cost could be less. Funds raised from the community would be used to help fund the project. Consideration of this project for the 2025 Capital budget would be based on the status of local support.

### **Environmental Impact**

- None

### **Strategic Plan Reference**

- Cultivate partnerships and promote collaboration.

### **Attachment (s)**

- None

*Angela Chittick*

**Prepared By:** Angela Chittick, Manager of Community & Corporate Services/Clerk

*Janice Lavalley*

**Approved By:** Janice Lavalley, Chief Administrative Officer