



Hamilton

CITY OF HAMILTON

**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Tourism and Culture Division**

TO: Mayor and Members General Issues Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: June 19, 2013	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Creation of a 2017 Sesquicentennial Committee (PED13110) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)	
SUBMITTED BY: Tim McCabe General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department	PREPARED BY: Anna M. Bradford (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3967
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That a City of Hamilton Sesquicentennial Initiative to celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017 be approved;
- (b) That a Sesquicentennial Advisory Committee be established to assist with the co-ordination of this initiative, together with the staff from the Tourism and Culture Division;
- (c) That the Committee include two (2) members of City Council, one (1) member from the Hamilton Historical Board and one (1) member from the Tourism Advisory Committee;
- (d) That staff be authorized and directed to prepare the Terms of Reference for the Sesquicentennial Advisory Committee for presentation to the General Issues Committee;

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- (e) That the Sesquicentennial Advisory Committee and staff be authorized to develop a high level strategy for the City's Sesquicentennial Initiative for presentation to the General Issues Committee;
- (f) That the item on the Outstanding Business List respecting this matter be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a follow up to the November 28, 2012 meeting of City Council, correspondence from Patricia Saunders Re: Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee for the Preparation of Canada's Sesquicentennial Celebration, attached as Appendix A to Report PED13110, was referred to the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development for a report to the General Issues Committee.

The City of Hamilton has traditionally celebrated and commemorated significant milestones in Canada's history such as the country's centennial in 1967. Staff is recommending that the City continue this tradition by undertaking a high-level strategy, aligning with any national initiatives, to commemorate Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in Report PED13110.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendations in Report PED13110. Support to the Citizens' Advisory Committee will be provided within current staffing resources.

Legal:

There are no legal implications associated with the recommendations in Report PED13110.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Hamilton's Past Commemorative Initiatives

Hamilton has a strong historical connection to participating in important milestones in the history of Canada including the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 (2012 – 2015) as well as Centennial celebrations in 1967. The 150th Anniversary of Canada in 2017 provides a platform for creating legacy projects associated with this important milestone. In 2007, as part of Report PED07257/ECS07069, Council approved the 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Initiative co-ordinated by the Culture Division and Tourism Division and under the guidance of the Director of Culture and the Director of Tourism. The Report also included a Council approved recommendation for staff to form a Citizens' Advisory Committee who, in partnership with staff, would develop and report back to Council for its approval, a strategy for the City's Sesquicentennial Initiatives.

On March 23, 1963, the Hamilton Centennial Committee met for the first time to begin planning and coordinating the City of Hamilton's observance of Canada's Centennial of Confederation (1967). The Hamilton Centennial Committee recommended that the restoration of Dundurn Castle be designated as a major Centennial project based on prior recommendation of the Board of Control (May 1962). The restored Dundurn Castle opened to the public on June 17, 1967.

Current National Initiative

Government and agencies in Canada are developing plans to mark the 150th Anniversary of Canada in 2017. In March 2010, the Institute of Public Administration of Canada and the firm MASS LBP hosted 150!Canada, a large conference to discuss ways of marking the occasion. As a way of further contributing to the discussions, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage agreed to undertake a study of Canada's 150th Anniversary. Completed in September 2012, the report titled Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017, includes extensive consultation with groups and individuals and resulted in a collection of recommendations from the Committee. Due to the size of the report, it has not been included as an appendix. However, a complete version of Canada's 150th Anniversary can be obtained at the following link - <http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?DocId=5614610&Language=E>

In the Federal government report, Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017, a number of agencies were identified as participants in the celebrations including CBC / Radio Canada, the National Film Board (NFB), Library and Archives of Canada (LAC) and various national museums. Other Federal institutions, such as the Parks Canada Agency, the Royal Canadian Mint and the National Capital Commission (NCC), are also interested in participating in the event.

As part of the report's recommendations, the Committee recommends that the Government of Canada make its plans known as soon as possible so that its partners at the provincial, territorial and municipal levels, as well as the private sector, can begin planning. As of April 25, 2013, there has been no further direction or next steps from the Federal or Provincial governments

POLICY IMPLICATIONS/LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

There are no Policy Implications or Legal Requirements associated with the Recommendations in Report PED13110.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Manager, Records and Freedom of Information, City Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Hamilton has a strong connection to marking Canada's anniversaries and the sesquicentennial commemoration provides an opportunity for the City to develop legacy projects, create tourism opportunities and link with National efforts that will mark an important part of Canadian history.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

There are no alternatives for the Recommendations in Report PED13110 for consideration.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN:

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.

Strategic Objective

- 1.5 Support the development and implementation of neighbourhood and City wide strategies that will improve the health and well-being of residents.

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Objective

2.2 Improve the City's approach to engaging and informing citizens and stakeholders.

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix "A" to Report PED13110 - Correspondence from Patricia Saunders dated November 15, 2012.

AB:ro

543 Upper Paradise Road,
Hamilton, Ontario. L9C 5E4

November 15, 2012

Mayor Bob Bratina and
Members of Hamilton City Council

I am writing to request that you and the city council consider appointing an Ad Hoc Committee to begin planning our sesquicentennial celebration in 2017.

While five years might seem like a long time away let me assure you that much activity is already underway. At the federal level a survey on March 10, 2008 revealed broad public support for Canada celebrating its sesquicentennial. On March 11, 2010 three hundred (300) delegates comprised of public servants, business and community leaders, academics and artists gathered in Ottawa to hear presentations from 27 eminent Canadians. This resulted in a report entitled “150! Canada Conference Report” which outlines their ideas for creating the next great year (2017) in Canadian history. Also at the federal level on September 24, 2012 the report of the Standing Committee of Canadian Heritage entitled “Canada’s 150th Anniversary in 2017” was presented to the House of Commons by the Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Culture and Official Languages. The report contains numerous recommendations to encourage Canadians to participate in the celebration of Canada’s 150th anniversary with support from the federal government.

Several communities across Canada, some smaller than Hamilton, i.e. Stratford, et al, have already formed Ad Hoc Committees or Task Forces to plan for this significant historical event. Therefore, it would appear that it is not too soon for us to begin.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Saunders.
cc Councillor T. Whitehead