



Legislative Services
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Town of Aurora
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December 20, 2023

Delivered by email
ginette.petitpastaylor@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor
Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence
272 St-George Street
Suite 110
Moncton, New Brunswick E1C 1W6

Dear Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of November 28, 2023
Motion 10.1 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Aurora Cenotaph 100 Year Celebration

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on November 28, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph is an early example of World War I memorials in Canada; and

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph predates the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France (1936) and the National War Memorial in Ottawa (1939); and

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph built in 1925 is located at the Aurora War Memorial and Peace Park that serves as a significant memorial for local soldiers from Aurora, King, and Whitchurch-Stouffville; and

Whereas Canadian citizens stand united in honouring our veterans for the sacrifices they made for the freedoms to speak without fear, freedom to worship, freedoms to stand for rights, freedoms to oppose what one believes wrong, and the freedom to choose those who shall govern our country in the name of democracy; and

Whereas the Cenotaph is approaching its 100-year anniversary, which should be recognized and celebrated by all;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora staff collaborate with the Aurora Legion, King Township, Whitchurch-Stouffville, the Provincial and Federal governments to commemorate this significant celebration; and**

- 2. Be It Further Resolved That staff report back with a collaborative plan of action with possible budget considerations; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to King Township, Whitchurch-Stouffville, the Minister of Veteran Affairs, and the local MPPs and MPs of each municipality.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/ef

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Anna Roberts, MP King—Vaughan
Hon. Helena Jaczek, MP Markham—Stouffville
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Hon. Stephen Lecce, MPP King—Vaughan
Hon. Paul Calandra, MPP Markham—Stouffville
Denny Timm, Clerk, Township Clerk, Township of King
Becky Jamieson, Director, Corporate Services/Clerk, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



10. Motions

10.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Aurora Cenotaph 100 Year Celebration

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph is an early example of World War I memorials in Canada; and

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph predates the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France (1936) and the National War Memorial in Ottawa (1939); and

Whereas the Aurora Cenotaph built in 1925 is located at the Aurora War Memorial and Peace Park that serves as a significant memorial for local soldiers from Aurora, King, and Whitchurch-Stouffville; and

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2. Be It Further Resolved That staff report back with a collaborative plan of action with possible budget considerations; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to King Township, Whitchurch-Stouffville, the Minister of Veteran Affairs, and the local MPPs and MPs of each municipality.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)