



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: MARCH 24, 2011

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	London Public Library Board Historic Sites Committee Strategic Plan, 2011-2014
Prepared By:	Historic Sites Committee
Presented By:	Margaret Mitchell, Hilary Bates Neary
Purpose of Report:	For Decision: Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Strategic Plan, 2011-2014 of the London Public Library Board Historic Sites Committee be approved.

Background and Review

The London Public Library Board Historic Sites Committee (HSC) Strategic Plan is contained in Appendix A. Its strategic plan has several key focus areas:

- continue its recognized work in the researching and plaquing of historic sites, to identify and mark sites of historic interest in London;
- refine the Mill Project, researching the history of mills along the Thames River in London, and marking mill sites;
- work in collaboration with the Library and community partners to enhance the public's knowledge about London's historic sites and local history;
- work with the Library to sustain the work of the Historic Sites committee through resource management development.

The HSC does not receive funding through the Library budget to undertake its activities but relies on donations to support specific projects, or grants to fund more extensive ventures. In part because of the recognized expertise of these dedicated volunteers, the HSC has been successful in the past few years in generating project specific funding.

Members have also earned honoraria for the Committee through writing projects. These funds have been applied to the plaquing program.

Some achievements in its strategic plan, 2007-2010 are:

- installation of four plaques: First Anglican Episcopal Election (St. Paul's Cathedral), Margaret Fullerton (City Hall), Dawn of Tomorrow (95/97 Glenwood Avenue), Industrial Banner (420 Richmond Street);
- organization of archived research materials on plaques for access by the public;
- *upgrades to the Historic Sites Committee web page, including Walking Guide to Historic Sites of London* available on the Library's website, hosted by Knowledge Ontario;
- brief to the Thames Valley Corridor Study regarding project to recognize and interpret former mill sites in the river lands;
- partnered with the Rotary Club of London on a walking/bus tour of historic sites along the Thames, 2008.