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THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
15322 BUENA VISTA AVENUE, WHITE ROCK B.C. V4B 1Y6



2000 SEPTEMBER
REFERENCE: COUNCIL

CITY OPERATIONS – No. 607

POLICY: HERITAGE TREES

Citizens may apply to the City for registration or designation of heritage trees in the City, on public or private lands. Application must be submitted in the form of a letter addressed to the City which identifies the subject tree or trees, and states the rationale for its identification as a heritage tree. The owner of the land upon which the tree is situated must consent to the application in writing, before it will be considered by the City. In the case of a City-owned tree, Council must endorse its status as a heritage tree.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

An application for heritage tree status will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Is the tree an outstanding specimen by virtue of its age or size?
- Is the tree a rare or unique example of its species, or is it unique in some form of its growth?
- Does the tree have historical significance? (Was it planted by a notable person, or is it associated with a historic event or place?)
- Is the tree a neighbourhood or community landmark?

If the tree or trees meet one or more of these criteria, it may be considered for heritage registration or designation as set out below:

HERITAGE REGISTRATION

- If staff determine the proposal has merit, the tree will be identified with a small plaque identifying the species, and reason(s) for its registration as a heritage tree. Costs will be assumed by the owner of the tree.

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

- Staff will prepare a report to Council outlining the reasons for designation.
- If endorsed by Council, the owner would agree to a covenant registered on title which would:
 1. Prohibit removal of the tree without the consent of the City. Consent will only be granted in cases where the tree has become a hazard, or it is dead.
 2. Ensure that the owner maintains the tree in accordance with the City's Tree Maintenance Guidelines.
- Heritage designation would also be identified by a small plaque identifying the species and reason(s) for designation.

A written and photographic record of registered and designated heritage trees will be kept on file by the Planning and Permits and Licences Departments, noting location, species, approximate size and age, date of registration or designation, and other pertinent information.

RATIONALE

To provide for the recognition and preservation of significant trees in the City.