
TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL ABORIGINAL TRAIL MARKERS

WARD: 1, 6 AND 7

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: C. LADD *C Ladd*
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the Aboriginal Trail Marker Initiative locations be endorsed for installation by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs by June 30th, 2015 in preparation for the Pan Am Games Legacy and in accordance with the Ministry Huron Wendat Nation (HWN) plaque designs and at the following park locations:
 - a) Veterans Woods Park
 - b) Huronia North Park
 - c) Sunnidale Park

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

2. The purpose of this staff report is to update General Committee on the final signage design and trail marker locations as indicated in the memo to Council on September 24, 2014.
3. In mid-2014, the City of Barrie was approached by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs to support its grant application to Trans Canada Trail Ontario for the implementation of the proposed Aboriginal Trail Markers Initiative along the City's portion of the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) and to provide an opportunity for the key Aboriginal communities to share their stories in their own words. The Ministry's application was part of the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games Promotion, Celebration and Legacy Strategy of the Games, to communicate and share the story of Aboriginal communities in Ontario and to create a lasting legacy from the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games.
4. As part of this support request, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA) has asked for the City to designate up to three trail marker locations, or "priority" locations, for the development and installation of interpretative signs that would honour the history and culture of Aboriginal communities, provide an opportunity for local communities to share their story to the general public and would enhance the experience of trail users travelling along the Trans Canada Trail Route.

5. As part of this grant application, MAA has also indicated that a future Trail Coordinator would be hired to coordinate the signage design and site locations with local municipalities and to act as a liaison between the City and the local aboriginal community. Mr. Peter Jensen, partner in the firm *The Jensen Group*, was hired as the Trail Coordinator and has been working with Parks Planning and Development staff on appropriate park locations within the City to designate location for sign placement.

ANALYSIS

6. In conversations with Peter Jensen, the placement of the plaque locations is to be reflective of aboriginal community locations while being in close proximity to the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) for educational and tourism benefits for the local community.
7. City staff have determined that three park locations are appropriate locations to identify the local aboriginal communities while responding to the existing TCT alignment through the City. The following three locations are detailed as follows:
- a) HWN Wiacek Plaque (Veterans Woods Park – Ward 7)
 - i) This park is in close proximity to Veterans Drive, Harvie Road and close to the Hwy 400/Mapleview area where significant aboriginal settlements and artifacts were discovered during archaeological investigations undertaken by the Ministry of Transportation at the time of the Mapleview Drive interchange construction in 1990. Additional discoveries were found during the preliminary approval stages of the Maplewoodlands Subdivision (Mason Homes) in 2001.
 - ii) Stage 4 archaeological studies were undertaken to document and study multiple lodge buildings and settlement areas that were found in the region. The proposed Aboriginal plaque as shown in Appendix A describes some of these findings.
 - iii) Staff propose Veterans Woods Park for the plaque installation and in a location near the existing playground. Refer to Appendix A for the park location and aerial images of the sign location within the park.
 - b) HWN Holly (Huron North Park – Ward 8)
 - i) This park is located on the TCT route and is approximately 3.5 kilometres east of the above Veterans Woods Park location, immediately north of the Willow Landing Elementary School, off Big Bay Point Road. (See Appendix B).
 - ii) The proposed location within the park is adjacent to the existing playground area as a local destination feature within the park. This represents an opportunity to educate the public on the rich aboriginal history within the historical Holly native settlement area that existed in the southern part of the City. Refer to Appendix B for the proposed Aboriginal plaque that describes some of these findings and an aerial image of the park for reference.
 - c) HWN Dunsmore (Sunnidale Park – Ward 4)
 - i) This park on the TCT is the City's "jewel" community facility in the north end of Barrie and is a significant public destination throughout the year. There are significant long distance views through the park from the proposed Metals Pavilion sign location at the edge of the arboretum site.

- ii) Several aboriginal findings were located in the park during the excavations for the newly constructed water reservoir structure and these findings were documented through an archaeological study.
 - iii) The park location is within the general region of the historical Dunsmore native settlement area. Refer to Appendix C for the proposed Aboriginal signage and a proposed location within Sunnidale Park.
8. Access Barrie will be consulted on the requirements for a sign unveiling ceremony once confirmed by the Jensen Group, Aboriginal Leaders and MAA. Staff anticipate that a ceremony would be scheduled in June after sign installations are complete.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

9. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES

10. There are two Alternatives available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could alter the proposed recommendation by requesting alternate locations for the proposed signage.

This Alternative is not recommended as the sites have been coordinated with the Jensen Group as the liaison with local aboriginal groups, the representative for MAA and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the TCT Grant application.

Alternative #2

General Committee could alter the proposed recommendation by not endorsing the Aboriginal Trail Marker Initiative in Barrie.

This Alternative is not recommended as it would represent a missed opportunity in the promotion and honour of the rich history and culture of Aboriginal communities within and surrounding the City of Barrie.

FINANCIAL

11. The Province of Ontario has allocated \$215,000 towards this Province-wide initiative with additional funding being requested from the TCT to coordinate the development and installation of up to 30 markers within the footprint or near the Pan/Parapan Games of key Aboriginal communities specifically: Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, Huron-Wendat and Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO). The Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC) is also participating to ensure that the rich urban Aboriginal history of the region is reflected. The City of Barrie's Friendship Centre is located on Bayfield Street.
12. As a result, there are no capital implications for the Corporation resulting from the design and installation of these trail markers.
13. The maintenance of these trail signs would become the responsibility of the City. As the panel designs are similar to that of our existing Nine Mile Portage Heritage Trail signs, a typical sign (supply and installation) cost, as proposed by MAA, is in the range of \$1200 to \$1800 per unit. These signs have an average 15 to 20 year life span with a typical 10 year product warranty so therefore the operating and maintenance costs to the City would be very minimal. The interpretative signage has had a positive contribution toward public education and tourism for Barrie.

LINKAGE TO 2014 – 2018 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

14. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2014-2018 Strategic Plan:
 - Inclusive Community

15. The implementation of these three aboriginal trail markers not only honours the rich history and culture of Aboriginal communities in and surrounding Barrie, the trail markers provide an opportunity for local communities to share their story to the general public by enhancing the experience of trail users travelling through Barrie on the Trans Canada Trail Route.

APPENDIX "A" - HWN Wiacek Plaque (Veterans Woods Park)



Aerial images of Veterans Woods park and playground area

WIACEK

Fourteenth Century Ancestral Huron-Wendat Village

The Wiacek site is an ancestral Huron-Wendat village located in the southern outskirts of the City of Barrie. The site was partially excavated by the Ministry of Transportation in 1983. Additional excavations were undertaken at the site in 1990 in advance of the proposed construction of a subdivision. In total, seven longhouse structures were found at the site. Radiocarbon dates and the designs on ceramic vessels indicate an occupation in the mid- fourteenth century.

Huron was a name given by the French meaning "boar's head" in reference to their hairstyle. Wendat is how they called themselves, meaning the "People of the Island." The Huron-Wendat lived in bark-covered longhouses in villages sometimes surrounded by palisades. Matrilineal families and strong clans were guided by a great diplomatic tradition and their ability to achieve compromise.



Village ancestral huron-wendat du quatorzième siècle

Le site Wiacek est un village ancestral huron-wendat situé dans la périphérie sud de la ville de Barrie. Le site a été partiellement excavé par le ministère des Transports (MTO) en 1983. Des fouilles supplémentaires ont été entreprises sur le site en 1990 préalablement au projet de construction d'un lotissement. Au total, sept structures de maisons longues ont été découvertes sur le site. La datation au radiocarbone ainsi que les dessins sur les poteries de céramique indiquent que l'occupation date du milieu du XIVe siècle.

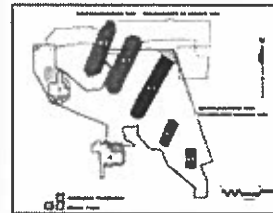
Huron était un nom donné par les Français qui signifie « tête de sanglier », en référence à leur coiffure. Wendat est le nom qu'ils se sont donné et qui signifie « Peuple de l'île ». Les Hurons-Wendat vivaient dans des maisons longues recouvertes d'écorce et construites dans des villages parfois entourés de palissades. Les familles matrilineaires appartenant à des clans très forts étaient guidées par leur grande tradition diplomatique et leur capacité à réaliser des compromis.



Photo Courtesy of ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
Photo Courtesy of ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services

This is a semi-subterranean sweat lodge found at the Wiacek site. These were structures constructed within longhouses or appended to their walls and used by men for curing ceremonies and to promote better social and political integration among the families in the community.

C'est une tente de sudation semi-souterraine découverte sur le site Wiacek. Ces structures étaient construites à l'intérieur des maisons longues ou adjacentes à leurs murs. Les hommes les utilisaient pour des cérémonies de guérison ainsi que pour favoriser une meilleure intégration sociale et politique au sein des familles de la communauté.



Limits of 1983 MTO and 1990 ASI excavations at the Wiacek site.
Limites des excavations du MTO en 1983 et d'ASI en 1990 sur le site Wiacek.

Photo Courtesy of Archaeological Services Inc.
Photo Courtesy of Archaeological Services Inc.

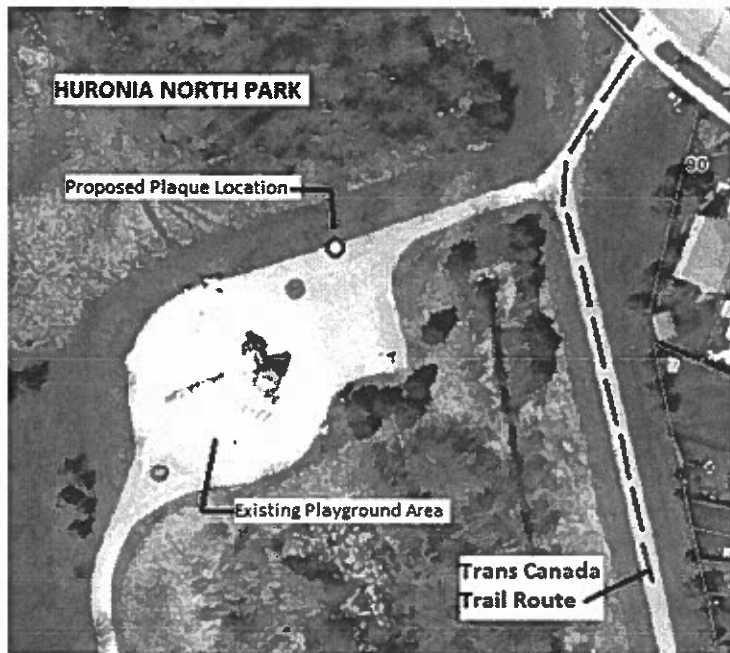
	HOUSE 1 MAISON 1	HOUSE 2 MAISON 2	HOUSE 3 MAISON 3	HOUSE 6 MAISON 6	HOUSE 7 MAISON 7
Length (m) Longueur (m)	41.3	36.4	43.6	10.3	13.4
Width (m) Largeur (m)	7.5	7.5	7.0	6.6	5.5
Occupation T. +/- Occupation	25	22	27		25

Source:
The Wiacek Site Revealed: The Results of the 1990 Excavations. David A. Robertson, Stephen C. Robertson, and Ronald J. Bradburn, 1999, Ontario Archaeology, Number 66



Proposed Plaque

APPENDIX "B" - HWN Holly Plaque (Huron North Park)



Aerial Plan and Enlargement of Playground Area in Huronia North Park


HOLLY

Ancestral Huron-Wendat Village

The Holly site is one of a series of Huron-Wendat villages and special-purpose sites found within a 25 km² area in southern Barrie. The investigations of these sites have provided a significant opportunity for examining one or perhaps two communities moving through time. It also presented an occasion to investigate rarely observed components of ancestral Huron-Wendat settlement-subsistence systems as two other nearby sites (Wellington and Dylstra) are not base settlements or villages but serve some other function. Holly includes at least four major longhouses showing substantial long-term domestic use and extensive re-building, possible special purpose structures, several large middens, and multiple exterior house rows of posts and associated features. As with some of the other major ancestral Huron-Wendat sites in southern Simcoe County, such as Wiacek, Hubbert and Dunsmore, no surrounding palisade was found, suggesting that these sites were occupied during a peaceful period in the fourteenth century.

Village ancestral huron-wendat

Le site de Holly fait partie d'une série de villages et de sites hurons-wendat qui ont été occupés pour en faire un usage particulier. Ces sites se trouvent dans une aire de 25 km² dans le sud de Barrie. Les fouilles sur ces sites ont permis d'examiner une ou peut-être deux communautés qui se sont déplacées à travers le temps. Ces fouilles ont également permis d'étudier des composantes rarement observées des systèmes ancestraux de subsistance des Huron-Wendat puisque deux autres sites situés à proximité (Wellington et Dylstra) ne sont pas des sites permanents ni des villages car ils servaient à d'autres fins. Holly comprend au moins quatre grandes maisons longues dont l'utilisation domestique et à long terme a été importante. On y retrouve les traces de grands travaux de reconstruction, des structures qui avaient probablement des fonctions particulières, plusieurs grandes aires où les rebuts étaient déposés, de multiples rangées de poteaux de soutien de maisons et d'autres éléments ayant des fonctions associées. Tout comme sur certains autres sites hurons-wendat ancestraux du sud du comté de Simcoe tels que Wiacek, Hubbert et Dunsmore, aucune palissade environnante n'a été trouvée, suggérant que ces sites ont été occupés pendant une période de paix au cours du quatorzième siècle.



NATION huronne-wendat

Source: The Holly Site Archaeological Services Inc., 2009, Report on file at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Sport; also can be accessed at www.asi.ca - Reports sections of website.

Source: The Holly Site Archaeological Services Inc., 2009. Le rapport est archivé au Ministère du Tourisme, de la Culture et du Sport et il est accessible à www.sco.ks.ca sous l'onglet « Reports » du site Internet.

Photo Courtesy of Archaeological Services Inc.
Photo: Courtoisie Archaeological Services Inc.




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Photo: Courtesy of ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
Photo: Courtoisie d'ASI Archéologique et Culturel Heritage Services

This is a bone bodián likely made from a deer leg bone and used for hide-working.

Voici une épingle en os probablement fabriquée à partir de l'os d'une patte de cerf et utilisée pour travailler le cuir.

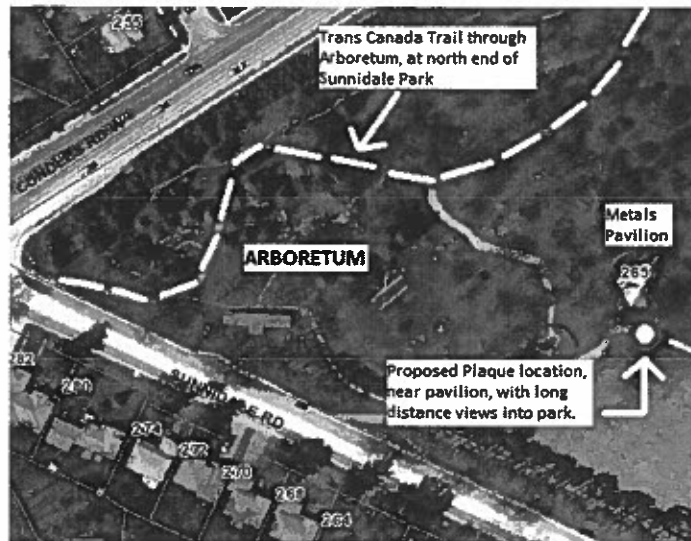


Examples of decorative patterns on pipe bowts.

Exemples de motifs décoratifs sur des têtes de pipes.

Photo: Courtesy of Archaeological Services Inc.
Photo: Courtoisie Archaeological Services Inc.

APPENDIX "C" - HWN Dunsmore Plaque (Sunnidale Park)



Proposed Location in Park

DUNSMORE

Ancestral Huron-Wendat Settlement

The Dunsmore site is a two-hectare, mid- to late fifteenth century unpalisaded ancestral Huron-Wendat settlement that had a complex history. The site may have included both seasonal tenancies and year-round occupations. The settlement appears to have served as both a seasonal fishing camp and a semi-permanent agricultural village, perhaps involving members of several different communities. Sixteen houses of various sizes were recorded.

The growing of corn was the major economic activity and women planted, tended and harvested the crops. Corn could contribute as much as 60% of the diet of the Huron-Wendat people. It was eaten in soup or roasted over fire. It was used to make bread (or bannock) for local consumption or during long-distances travels. In such journeys, corn was also used in trading for other goods such as hides, fish, meat and tobacco.

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Site ancestral huron-wendat

Le site Dunsmore est un site ancestral huron-wendat de deux hectares non entouré de palissades qui date du milieu à la fin du quinzième siècle. L'histoire de ce site est complexe. Le site avait probablement deux types d'occupation, l'une saisonnière et l'autre, à l'année. Le site semble avoir servi de campement saisonnier pour la pêche et aussi, de village agricole semi-permanent, impliquant sans doute des membres de plusieurs communautés différentes. Seize maisons de différentes tailles ont été trouvées sur le site.

La culture du maïs était la principale activité économique et les femmes plantaient, entretenaient et récoltaient les cultures. Le maïs pouvait contribuer jusqu'à 60 % du régime alimentaire du peuple huron-wendat. Il était consommé en soupe ou rôti sur le feu. Il était utilisé pour faire du pain (ou de la bannique) pour la consommation locale ou lors déplacements sur de longues distances. Au cours de ces voyages, le maïs était utilisé comme monnaie dans les échanges commerciaux pour obtenir d'autres produits tels que des cuirs, des poissons, des viandes et du tabac.



Photo: Courtesy of ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
Photo: Courtesy of ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services

This is a reconstructed ceramic vessel typical of the types found at the Dunsmore Site. The designs on the collar and neck portions of the vessel are used by archaeologists to date the site and to identify the ethnic affiliation of their makers.

Voici un récipient en céramique typique de ceux qui ont été trouvés sur le site Dunsmore. Les motifs sur l'encolure du récipient sont utilisés par les archéologues pour déterminer la date du site et pour identifier l'affiliation ethnique de leurs fabricants.



Source:
The Archaeology of the
Dunsmore Site: 15th-Century
Community Transformations
in Southern Ontario. David
A. Robertson and Ronald F.
Walters, 2003, Canadian
Journal of Archaeology, Volume
27, Issue 1.



1581-1615
Huron-Wendat



Des Hurons et
des Wendats



Proposed Plaque