

August 19, 2021

RE: Temporary Relocation of Commemorative Boulder and National Historic Site of Canada Plaque at 399 Ridout Street North

As part of detailed design for the Downtown Loop (Rapid Transit) Project, a Heritage Impact Assessment was completed which determined that the property at 399 Ridout Street North, known as the Middlesex County Court House, would be directly impacted by the project.

The design for Phase 2 of the Downtown Loop requires widening of Ridout Street North, which will result in the edge of the new sidewalk abutting the base of the boulder and plaque located on the property to commemorate its status as a National Historic Site of Canada. Given the proximity of the boulder and plaque to the new sidewalk, it will be subject to long-term negative impacts, such as damage from salt or vandalism.

Therefore, the boulder and plaque have been relocated prior to construction and will be reinstated at a new location within the property of 399 Ridout Street North that is set back from the edge of the right-of-way, once construction is complete.

Parks Canada owns and maintains the National Historic Sites of Canada plaques and has removed the boulder and plaque for temporary safe storage at a facility in Leamington, Ontario. A new pad will be installed as part of the construction project to allow Parks Canada to reinstate the boulder and plaque once construction is complete. The exact location of the pad is still to be confirmed based on working with the property owner, as it will be located on private property.

We ask that you share this information with your members, and if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jennie

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