

Program Description

The Town of Mahone Bay is offering property owners a funding program to help with the cost of repair or restoration work on the exterior facade of registered heritage properties in the town of Mahone Bay.

Owners of such properties will be eligible (upon application) for a matching grant of 50% of costs up to a maximum of \$1000.00 exclusive of HST – maximum grant would be \$500.00. This money is to be spent on pre-approved repairs or restoration work on the exterior facade and the grant will be disbursed upon review of appropriate receipts for work done. The applications will be approved on a first come first served basis.

Property owners will be eligible to apply for this grant annually, but any one property would be eligible for only one such grant in any five-year period.

Applications should be submitted to town staff and will be forwarded to the Heritage Advisory Committee for review and recommendation to council.

Eligibility

For your property to be eligible it must be:

- privately-owned
- a registered Municipal Heritage Property
- of residential or commercial use

Work cannot be undertaken prior to the application being approved.

When is the deadline?

Applications are accepted between January 1 and March 1 of each year.

What do I need to apply for the Heritage Incentives Program?

To apply for this program, submit a completed application form along with **two** contractors' cost estimates for the proposed work.

Heritage Alteration Approval

Under the Heritage Property By law, approval is required for any exterior alteration.

This approval is a necessary pre-requisite for a Grant application. Contact Town Hall to receive an Approval Request for Exterior Alterations to a Municipally Registered Heritage Property application form.

Applications cannot be approved without building permit approval, where required.

How are applications prioritized?

The Heritage Advisory Committee evaluates all applications, but generally looks at the following criteria:

1. Preference will be given to first-time applicants.
2. Higher priority will be given to preservation and restoration of historic structural and weather-proofing elements than to cosmetic improvements. The restoration of cladding, windows, doors, or roof has greater priority than painting.
3. Preference is given to restoration of publicly visible features. For example, restoration of a front porch would have higher priority than a rear porch.

