



Report
Staff Report
The Corporation of the City of Brampton
4/15/2025

Date: 2025-04-07

Subject: **Completion of the City of Brampton Archaeological Management Plan (BRAMP)**

Contact: Charlton Carscallen, Integrated City Planning

Report number: Planning, Bld & Growth Mgt-2025-279

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Charlton Carscallen, Principal Planner, Heritage, Integrated City Planning to the Brampton Heritage Board Meeting of April 15, 2025, re: **Completion of the City of Brampton Archaeological Management Plan (BRAMP)**, be received;
2. That the presentation by Archaeological Research Associates regarding the background and structure of the BRAMP be received; and
3. That the Heritage Board receive the BRAMP for their review and include a discussion as an agenda item at the meeting on May 20, 2025 for consideration of next steps.

OVERVIEW:

- **The City has prepared an Archaeological Management Plan as required in the 2020 Brampton Plan and supported in the 2024 Brampton Plan.**
- **The BRAMP was developed through extensive consultation with First Nations as well as the public and other stakeholders.**
- **The BRAMP considers a vast data set and current best practices in developing an archaeological potential model for the City.**
- **The document provides recommended archaeological policies and procedures and direction for their adoption and implementation.**

- **This report provides an overview of the tasks and engagement activities that have culminated in a final BRAMP document, as well as next steps in advance of bringing forward final implementation recommendations to Council.**

BACKGROUND:

Provincial legislation, including the Planning Act, Ontario Heritage Act, Environment Assessment Act and Provincial Planning Statement (PPS), mandate and encourage municipalities to protect and draft strategies for archaeological resource conservation. Archaeological Management Plans are an important tool for municipalities to better preserve and manage archaeological resources within their boundaries.

The introductory Vision section of the PPS identifies that “Cultural Heritage and archaeology in Ontario will provide people with a sense of place.” In Section 4.6 **Cultural Heritage and Archaeology** of the PPS, the following statements are made:

1. *Planning authorities shall not permit development and site alteration on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless the significant archaeological resources have been conserved.*
2. *Planning authorities are encouraged to develop and implement a) archaeological management plans for conserving archaeological resources; and b) proactive strategies for conserving significant built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes.*
3. *Planning authorities shall engage early with Indigenous communities and ensure their interests are considered when identifying, protecting and managing archaeological resources, built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes.*

Brampton City Council has formally endorsed the Calls to Action from the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report, through Council Motion C248-2019. Subsequently, Council adopted and authorized the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation through Council Motion C073-2020. This latter motion further noted the recognition of UNDRIP was also done in response to the TRC Calls to Action. These two commitments on the part of the City form the basis for the engagement with First Nations and Indigenous communities on a variety of City matters, including the BRAMP.

Section 3.6.3 of Brampton Plan addresses archaeological resources as well as built heritage and cultural landscapes with specific reference to the PPS. This section of the Plan outlines the City’s commitment to responsible management of archaeological resources and emphasizes how clear and open engagement with First Nations regarding archaeological resources can advance “...the goals of Truth and

Reconciliation, as identified through the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Brampton Plan: 3-166).”

To this end, Part 3.6.3.80 states:

An Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) identifies areas of archaeological potential and establishes policies and measures to protect them. Every endeavor will be made to leave archaeological sites undisturbed. Development of the AMP will include engagement with Indigenous Communities.

The creation of the Brampton Archaeological Master Plan (“BRAMP”) acts on the City’s commitment to responsible management of archaeological resources and is rooted in the goals of developing community identity and history while furthering the City’s commitment to furthering the goals of Truth and Reconciliation, as identified through the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Development of the AMP

In developing the BRAMP, the project team completed a series of related tasks that, together, provide the policy background and supporting data that give the BRAMP a clear structure that supports robust and meaningful policy and procedural outcomes.

Indigenous engagement was a foundational component of all aspects of the BRAMP’s development. This commenced with the development of the project scope and RFP prior to public release. First Nations were part of the project start-up and helped refine and finalize the project approach and scheduling. The following Nations were engaged throughout the project: The Mississauga’s of the Credit First Nation (MCFN), the Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR), the Haudenosaunee Development institute (HDI), and the Huron-Wendat Nation (HWN).

The following are the stated goals for the BRAMP:

- Enabling efficient and transparent administration of development regulation as it relates to archaeological resource management;
- Ensuring internal practices and public works projects subscribe to the highest possible standards in anticipating, assessing, and protecting archaeological resources;
- Encouraging private development and land alteration proponents to adopt the same highest possible standards;
- Preservation of archaeological sites and evidence that are finite and fragile;

- Employing state of the art techniques and data in the form of a dynamic archaeological potential model;
- Enriching public knowledge and appreciation of Brampton's pre- and post-contact history as reflected through archaeological research and findings; and
- Meaningfully contributing to reconciliation and engagement with First Nations and Indigenous Communities.

The Archaeological Management Plan consists of four major parts:

1. A summary of Brampton's Indigenous, Archaeological and Post- Contact History;
2. A Brampton-specific archaeological potential model;
3. A series of recommended policies, procedures and related implementation strategy; and
4. Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Protocol.

The technical elements of the BRAMP were developed as follows:

- 1) As a first step, the project team completed a thorough bench-marking exercise that reviewed AMPs that were developed in five other municipalities. This provided insight into both strengths and weaknesses of previously prepared plans. This included preparation of a written summary of the review results and a presentation to the project team and First Nations.
- 2) A review of all archaeological data available for Brampton. This included review of more than 760 archaeological reports that represent more than 50 years of archaeological investigations in Brampton.
- 3) Using the bench-marking and archaeological data reviews the team developed a Brampton-specific archaeological potential model which identifies:
 - a. Where archaeological potential exists across the city;
 - b. Where archaeological potential has been removed or where it is lacking; and
 - c. Areas that have had previous archaeological assessments and whether those areas require further work or for which all requirements have been met.

It is a clear and refined data set that will continue to be updated twice yearly through a data sharing agreement with Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM).

- 4) The project required extensive consultation. Beyond consultation with First Nations, the project team also engaged with the Technical Advisory Committee (comprised of representatives from various City departments and the Heritage Board), MCM, the Burial Authority of Ontario, Building Industry and Land Development Corporation, and the public.

- 5) Using the data and input gathered through the previous steps, the BRAMP team developed detailed policies and procedures for the management of archaeological resources across the city as well as recommendations for their implementation. These were also informed by Federal and Provincial legislation, and the Peel and Brampton Official Plans. The Policy and procedures section provides the framework for BRAMP integration with City policies and practices and includes an Emergency Protocol to be followed when unexpected archaeological or human remains are encountered. Most importantly, it provides clear processes and accountabilities and explains when and how archaeological assessments are required.

Next Steps

Staff are providing the BRAMP to the Brampton Heritage Board at its meeting of April 15, 2025, giving members an opportunity to review in advance of a more thorough discussion at the May 20, 2025 BHB meeting. Based on the outcomes of this latter meeting, staff anticipate bringing a report to Council recommending formal adoption and implementation of the BRAMP.

Once Council has received the BRAMP and its recommendations, staff training will be provided on the implementation and use of the document. As part of the City's commitment to regular review and update of the BRAMP, staff will continue the dialogue with First Nations and Indigenous communities.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications at this time.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

Culture and Diversity

The BRAMP is part of Council's commitment to meaningful action relative to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) principles and Calls to Action.

CONCLUSION:

The BRAMP will serve as a guide and resource that will be a key planning tool for staff, applicants, council and the public in development and infrastructure planning processes.

This is especially important in an environment where rapid growth is quickly transforming the City.

Through the BRAMP the City will continue to recognize, protect and celebrate its rich history and enhance relations with First Nations and Indigenous Communities while continuing to foster a sense of place and shared history for our all of the many communities that live and work in the City.

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Attachments

- Attachment 1 – Brampton 2025 Archaeological Management Plan
- Attachment 2 – Presentation re: Brampton Archaeological Management Plan