

To:	Warden Halliday and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	November 22, 2018
Subject / Report No:	CAOR-CW-25 -18
Title:	The Regiments of Grey Cenotaph Project
Prepared by:	Petal Furness & Stephanie McMullen
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove, CAO
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	All
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented as per Resolution CW285-18;

Recommendation

1. That Report **CAOR-CW-25-18 Regiments of Grey Cenotaph Project**, be received; and
2. That **\$15,000 be transferred from the Grey Roots Moreston Reserve to cover any project costs which exceed the Veteran's Affairs Grant of \$18,172, In-Kind Donations, and 2018 budgeted funds.**

Executive Summary

The citizens of Grey County provided substantial resources and volunteers to support our allies during both of the Great Wars. Many Grey County communities have their local cenotaph, however there is no memorial to the Grey County efforts in their entirety and the regiments that were raised. A substantial grant has been received from Veteran's Affairs, as well donated funds and expertise towards the construction of a monument at Grey Roots. Staff is seeking Council's support to transfer funds from the Moreston Reserve to allow the construction project to proceed.

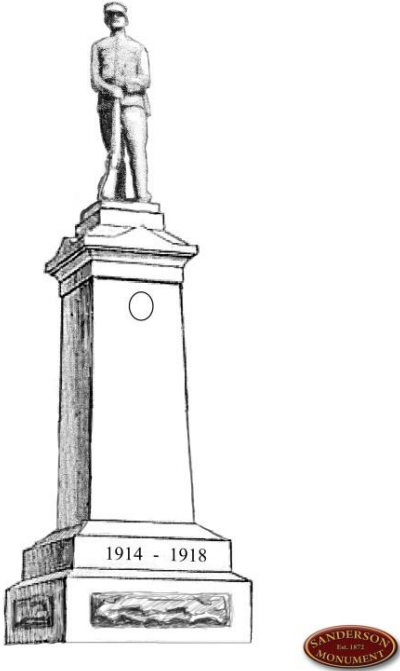
Background and Discussion

A monument in the name of the three locally raised units (the 31st Regiment, the 147th and 248th Battalions) during the First World War is proposed to be erected at Grey Roots. Grey County sent thousands of citizens to the battlefields of Europe to serve King and Country in World War I. Many never returned to their homes, and all were forever changed by their experiences. The central portion of Grey Roots' heritage village focuses on 1925, when the pain and impact of these losses and experiences was still fresh and keenly felt.

Centrally located in the village, the monument will attract the attention of visitors, both local and tourists, throughout the operating season, to learn more about World War I, and the lasting impact it had on Grey County communities well into the 20th century. With no remaining veterans from the Great War, and very few people with vibrant memories of the 1920s to put meaning and context into the impact of the war and its effect in the immediate post-war years, Grey Roots is a guardian of those experiences and lives. We can fulfill this responsibility by using the cenotaph as the touchstone.

The monument will also provide a fitting focal point for commemoration and education events. Grey Roots' World War I memorial will have an ongoing role in engaging, educating visitors on the impact of the war and how it shaped the development of the country through the 1920s and beyond. This monument will provide a significant opportunity to develop programming which will allow this region to come together to recognize and salute the bravery of ordinary Canadians in this great conflict, and remember everyone's struggle to adapt to a new life after the war ended.

Every town, village and hamlet in Grey County constructed a local war memorial in the 1920s to recognise its citizens; however no cenotaph exists to recognize Grey County's contribution in its entirety and the regiments that were raised. In 2015 staff applied for funding from the World Wars Commemoration Fund. When staff began the process of reviewing monument designers and builders, Sanderson Monuments demonstrated a knowledge and expertise in the field, both historically and in the modern day that was unmatched. Sanderson has been called upon by other communities, such as Elmira, to replace damaged First World War monuments, and to construct new ones, such as at Base Borden. Mr. Sanderson's grandfather designed hundreds of war memorials in Ontario in the 1920s. Combining existing cenotaphs in Grey County, Moreston's needs, and his grandfather's design drawings, Mr. Sanderson created the design for the Regiments of Grey County cenotaph, as submitted with the grant application.



In 2017, application was made to the World Wars Commemoration Fund, a special, one-time funding opportunity to enhance Canadians' awareness, knowledge and understanding of the importance of the First World War and Second World War – with funding to cover 100% of a project (up to a \$50,000 maximum). Sadly our application was declined. Although ranked highly, the program funded only 8 projects in the entire country.

This year staff updated, revised and resubmitted to the program, however this year's funding program was limited to 50% funding of a project (up to a maximum of \$50,000). In September, Grey Roots was notified that our proposal had been accepted and that Veterans' Affairs would provide \$18,172 towards the Grey Roots War Memorial project. Below is an excerpt from our project application:

Project Research and Funding

Sanderson Memorials pledged to contribute their design, consulting and travel fees. The Friends of Moreston have pledged \$1,000 which was declared in our funding application. Based on previous experience when Grey County veteran medals have come up for auction, Grey County citizens were quick to donate to Grey Roots for their purchase, feeling that Grey County's military history should be kept in Grey County. There is every reason to believe that Grey County residents and businesses will feel equally passionate about this project and help to support it.

Work Plan

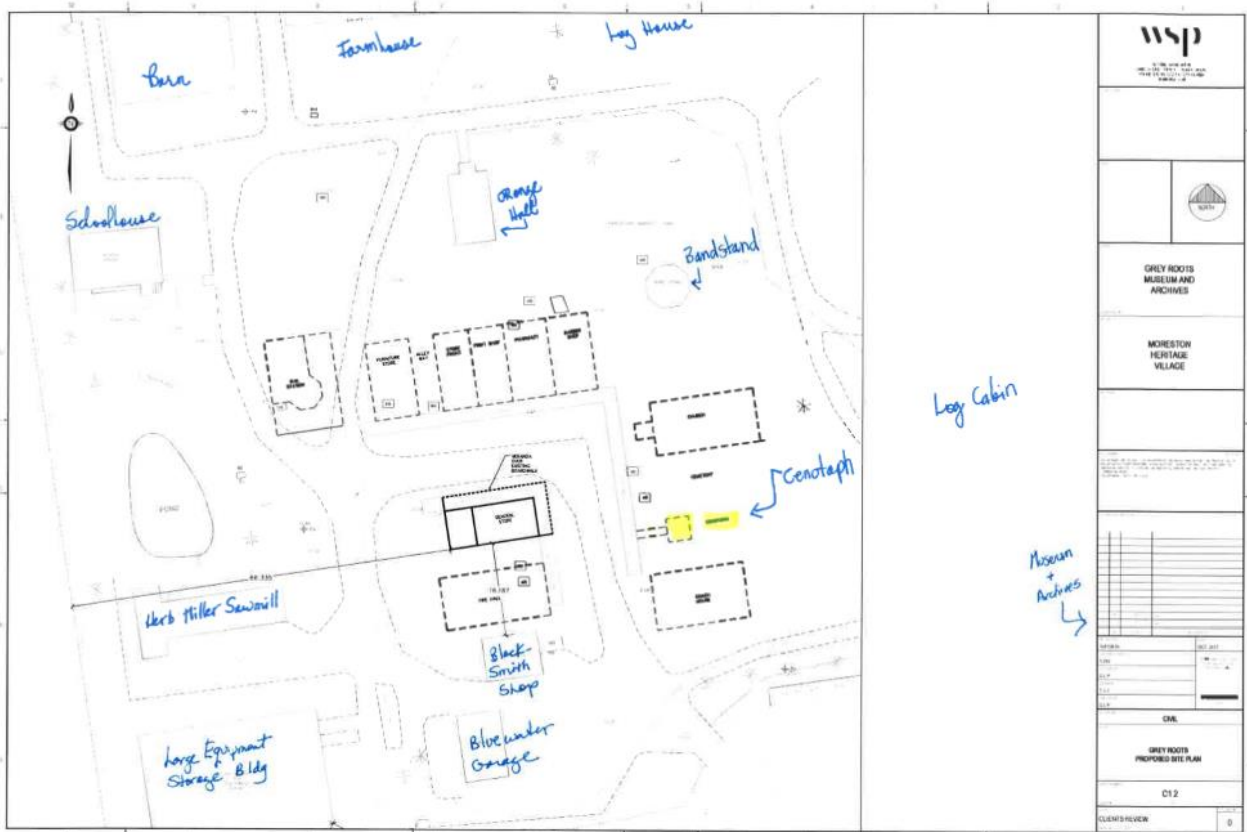
October – November 2018: Confirm site locates, site dig and pour monument foundation

November 2018 - February 2019: Carve and create monument pieces

March 2019: Install monument on-site

Spring 2019: Complete landscaping and grand opening

The Regiments of Grey Cenotaph will be located south of the present Good Cheer Bandstand and the proposed Church. It will be across the street from the proposed General Store. Clearly it will help anchor the heart of Moreston Village.



Legal and Legislated Requirements

None.

Financial and Resource Implications

The total cost of this project is budgeted to be \$51,909. The Veteran's Affairs Grant, the Friends of Moreston donation, Sanderson Memorials contribution, other in-kind donations, and 2018 budgeted funds, are estimated to provide \$36,909 in funding. The remainder of the budgeted construction cost of the Regiments of Grey Cenotaph requires a transfer from the Grey Roots Moreston Reserve of \$15,000. There are sufficient funds in the Grey Roots Moreston Reserve to cover this important expense.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal (list) Grey Roots staff and Friends of Moreston; Senior County Staff Director of Corporate Services Kevin Wepler, and CAO Kim Wingrove
- External (list) Veteran's Affairs Canada, Sanderson Memorials

Appendices and Attachments

[CCR-PCD-11-15](#)