

Carrie Fairley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: April 1, 2026 9:48 AM
To: Town Clerk
Subject: Ontario Heritage Tree in Ravenna, TOBM
Attachments: FO_HTP_CERTIFICATE_HT-2021-263-271_REDUCED_FINAL.pdf; Forests Ontario Designation Letter_June 2023.pdf

Good morning, Corrina,

I've been meaning to write this letter for over a year now but was finally spurred to action when I saw that the Town of the Blue Mountains is applying for an Ontario Heritage designation for a tree on High Bluff Lane. Did you know the TOBM has another tree of such distinction?

The Royal Oak tree on our old schoolhouse property at [REDACTED] Ravenna, has also been recognized as an official Ontario Heritage tree. It was official in June 2023, but I have been saving the announcement for the Centennial anniversary of the Ravenna Schoolhouse which is May of 2027.

The plaque dedication will be part of the 100th celebrations next year, but as you are working on another application, I felt it was time to share. Can you please present the attached documents and my email as official correspondence at the next appropriate council meeting?

Further to the tree news, I would like to let council know that I am planning a celebratory event in May 2027. Date TBA. If council has any suggestions or would like to be involved, please let me know. Otherwise, I am thinking about a public "doors open" event. There are still many residents in town who attended this school – right up until its auction in 1968. If there is someone I should liaise with over the next year, please do let me know that as well.

Thank you very much and I do apologize for not bringing this to your attention sooner.

Laura & Michael Lucas
[REDACTED]
Ravenna, ON, N0H 2E0
[REDACTED]



15 Maple Ave Unit #103
Barrie, ON L4N 2N6

www.forestsontario.ca

June 19, 2023

Laura Lucas



Dear Laura,

Thank you for nominating your remarkable English Oak (HT-2021-263-271) for our Heritage Tree Program. We are pleased to inform you that following an evaluation of cultural and historical significance your nominated tree is now **recognized as a Heritage Tree**. Congratulations!

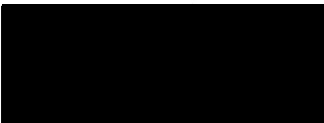
Forests Ontario and our partners collect and share the stories of important Heritage Trees across Ontario, and your tree has been added to our digital Heritage Tree map which can be found at <https://forestsontario.ca/en/program/heritage-tree>.

In acknowledgement of the importance of Heritage Trees in the communities in which they grow we have enclosed a certificate and tree tag. If you wish you may attach the tag to the tree at eye-level – approximately 5 feet up from the ground – allowing community members to also recognize its significance. Suggested attachment instructions can be found enclosed in this package.

Of course, feel free to share a photo of your tree on social media and tag Forests Ontario (@Forests_Ontario) with the hashtag #HeritageTree. We also encourage you to reach out to your local media and community to help celebrate your tree; if you need any assistance in this regard, our communications team is more than happy to help get you started.

Your nomination adds to the growing number of Heritage Trees collectively telling the story of Ontario's rich, natural heritage. These trees are of tremendous value, not just to our urban tree canopy, but to the cultural fabric of our communities. Thank you again for your participation and hearty congratulations!

Warm regards,



Jessica Kaknevicus
CEO
Forests Ontario



Recognized Heritage Tree

English Oak, *Quercus robur*

HT-2021-263-271

This enchanting English Oak is believed to be more than 80 years old, and although it may still be a relatively young tree, it has a noble history.

In the late 1930s, King George IV and Queen Elizabeth gifted acorns from the Royal Forest to various schools. The seeds were given to the school boards chairperson with the expectation they would be planted in the school yard. Thomas and Mary Gould, a local family, were gifted two acorns which they sprouted in a flowerpot near their kitchen window. Once the trees were strong enough, they were planted in front of the Ravenna Schoolhouse, now in Grey County. Although one did not survive, the other continues to grow today.

This impressive English Oak that once grew in the Gould's kitchen, now towers over the property, providing both people and wildlife an astounding view. Former students say that they were never allowed to climb the tree due to its historical significance and its noble origin. 2027 will mark the Centennial of the current Ravenna Schoolhouse.



www.heritagetree.ca

Circumference: 302 cm

Height: 13.5 m