

**CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
REGIONAL COUNTY OFFICE
OF ARGENTEUIL
TOWNSHIP OF WENTWORTH**

BY-LAW NUMBER 2025-006

**BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH AND ITS CEMETERY
AS A HERITAGE SITE**

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 127 of the *Cultural Heritage Act (RIRQ, ch.P-9.002)*, the Council of a municipality may cite, in whole or in part, a heritage property located on its territory, the knowledge, protection, enhancement or transmission of which is of public interest;

WHEREAS the site of St.Aidan's Church and its cemetery, including certain elements found inside the church, located on lot 4 876 114, is of historical, emblematic, architectural and urbanistic heritage interest to the Municipality of the Township of Wentworth and to the MRC of Argenteuil;

WHEREAS St.Aidan's Church, since its construction, is emblematic in the landscape of the Township of Wentworth and forms, with its cemetery, an ensemble of high heritage value;

WHEREAS St.Aidan's Church was built in 1893;

WHEREAS the preservation of St.Aidan's Church and its cemetery is of public interest since the site is part of the historical heritage of the Township of Wentworth;

WHEREAS the site of St.Aidan's Church and its cemetery, is mentioned in the Municipality's Planning program By-Law (2018-006) as being of heritage and historical interest and that the Planning program, by its Orientation 5, aims at the preservation and enhancement of the site;

WHEREAS the Municipality will mandate a specialized firm to produce an architectural heritage study and surveyors to precisely delineate the site;

WHEREAS a Notice of Motion to introduce this By-Law was given at the regular meeting of the Municipal Council held on April 7th, 2025;

WHEREAS a Special Notice was sent the week of April 7th, 2025, to the owner of the property cited herein advising him of the effects of this By-Law as well as the place, date and time of the Local Heritage Council meeting during which they could make their representations;

WHEREAS a Public Consultation meeting of the Local Heritage Council was held on May 8th, 2025;

THEREFORE, it is proposed by Councillor Philippe Cyr and
RESOLVED

THAT Council adopt the By-Law entitled "By-law number 2025-006, By-Law to designate St. Aidan's Church and its cemetery as a heritage site " and it is hereby statued and decreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1 PREAMBLE

The preamble to the present By-Law forms an integral part of it.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this By-Law, the following words and expressions mean:

- **Alter:** to modify in a reversible or non-reversible manner the architectural qualities of a building or building component.
- **Restore:** repair while respecting the original elements of a building or part of a building, in order to preserve its main character-defining qualities.
- **Repair or modify:** modernize, refurbish or bring up to standard a building to adapt it to contemporary use.
- **Demolish:** destroy all or part of a building or its components.
- **Move:** change a building or part of a building from its original location.
- **Lean:** to support another structure on one side of a building.
- **Local Heritage Council (LHC):** Local Heritage Council of the Township of Wentworth.
- **Municipality:** Municipality of the Township of Wentworth.

ARTICLE 3 PURPOSE OF THE CITATION

The recognition of the following heritage site in accordance with the powers conferred to the Municipality under the law:

The site of St. Aidan's Church and its cemetery, located on lot 4 876 114, all as defined in Annex A.

ARTICLE 4 ELEMENTS OF THE CITATION

The following elements of the property located on Lot 4 876 114, in the Township of Wentworth:

1. The exterior envelope of St. Aidan's Church, including the stonework, the bell tower, the entrance, the stained-glass windows, the metal roof, and any other exterior architectural or structural elements.
2. The entire cemetery adjacent to the church, partially bounded by a white fence, including all tombstones and any other architectural elements. The fence is excluded from the quotation; however, its replacement must respect the architectural character of the site.
3. The land surrounding the church as defined in Annex A.
4. The items inside the church as defined in Annex B.

ARTICLE 5 REASONS FOR THE CITATION

The site of St. Aidan's Church and its cemetery is of historical, emblematic, architectural, and urbanistic heritage interest to the Municipality of Wentworth Township.

St. Aidan's Church was built in 1893. Since its construction, St. Aidan's Church has been a landmark in the Township of Wentworth landscape and, along with its cemetery, forms a complex of high heritage value.

The Citation By-Law recognizes and formalizes this interest.

ARTICLE 6 CITATION

The elements detailed in Article 4 are designated as a heritage site, in accordance with the *Cultural Heritage Act* (Chapter 4, section 3).

ARTICLE 7 PRESERVATION, RESTORATION, MOVEMENT OR ADJUSTMENT

7.1 It is the duty of the owner of the building referred to in this By-Law (i.e., St. Aidan's Church and its cemetery) to take the necessary measures to ensure the preservation of the heritage value of the said building (S. 136 – *Cultural Heritage Act*).

7.2 Anyone who alters, restores, repairs, or modifies in any way, with respect to its external appearance, a listed heritage building, as well as the specific conditions relating to the preservation of the building's more specific characteristics to which the Municipal Council may impose them and which are in addition to municipal regulations, must comply with the conditions relating to the preservation of the building's heritage values (S. 137 – *Cultural Heritage Act*).

7.3 No one may, without the authorization of the Municipal Council, demolish all or part of a listed heritage property, move it, or use it as an adjoining structure (S. 141 – *Cultural Heritage Act*).

7.4 The Municipal Council may determine the conditions of authorization. Before deciding on a request for authorization, the Municipal Council consults the LHC.

ARTICLE 8 GENERAL CONDITIONS

Work carried out on the aforementioned building must comply with the following general conditions:

- Respect the shapes, proportions, and dimensions of the original building and its annexes;
- Preserve openings, doors, and windows;
- Meticulously preserve existing decorative elements;
- Preserve the current exterior materials or, if this proves impossible, replace them with exterior cladding materials of the same quality and appearance.
- Comply in all respects with the provisions of the Urban Planning regulations in force in the Municipality.

ARTICLE 9 SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

In addition to complying with the general conditions of Article 8, the work must meet the specific conditions set by the Municipal Council following the LHC's opinion, namely the obligation to:

- Preserve the character of the existing openings, including the windows, and respect their current dimensions;
- Ensure that stained-glass windows are restored if broken;
- Respect the existing geometry of the building;
- In the context of future work, favor the use of identical materials for the interior of the church;
- Preserve the current colors of the following elements: the stone constituting the structure, the roof, the doors, the windows, and the bell tower;
- Keep intact all original inscriptions on the building;
- Preserve the trees, shrubs, and vegetation throughout the site, including the cemetery lawn;
- Preserve and restore, where possible, damaged tombstones while respecting their original appearance.

It is also prohibited to:

- Dismantle the building for the purpose of moving it and numbering its parts to reconstruct it elsewhere;
- Dismantle and move tombstones for the purpose of reconstructing them elsewhere;
- Build within the front margins (street side);
- Conceal the facade (street side) with any construction or modification.

ARTICLE 10 NOTICE, AUTHORIZATION, REFUSAL

10.1 No one may perform any of the acts provided for in Article 7 without giving the Municipality at least forty-five (45) days' notice. Where a municipal permit is required, the permit application, as filed, is deemed to be notice (*Art. 139 - Cultural Heritage Act*).

10.2 The permit application must include a complete and detailed description of the planned work and any other documents requested by the Municipality.

10.3 Upon receipt of a formal request, the Municipal Council consults the LHC.

10.4 In light of the LHC's recommendations, the Municipal Council renders its decision. If the Municipal Council finds the application acceptable, it may set additional special conditions.

10.5 A copy of the resolution setting out the special conditions for carrying out the acts provided for in Article 7 accompanies, where applicable, the municipal permit or certificate issued elsewhere authorizing the acts concerned and the deadline for carrying them out.

10.6 Any person who performs any of the acts provided for in Article 7 must comply fully with the conditions determined by the Municipal Council.

10.7 In the event of a refusal of an application for authorization, the Municipal Council sends the applicant a notice stating the reasons for its refusal, together with a copy of the CLP's opinion (*Art. 142 – Cultural Heritage Act*).

ARTICLE 11 ADMINISTRATION AND PENALTIES

The Municipal Council authorizes any designated official to undertake penal proceedings against any person contravening any provision of the present By-Law and generally authorizes these persons to issue the necessary statements of offence for this purpose. These persons are responsible for enforcing the By-Law.

The person responsible for enforcing the present By-Law is authorized to visit and examine, at any reasonable time, the heritage site to ascertain whether the present By-Law is being complied with, and any owner, lessee or occupant of this immovable must allow him to enter (*Art. 180 - Cultural Heritage Act*).

ARTICLE 12 REMEDIES AND PENALTY

Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this By-Law or the conditions set by the Municipality as provided for in Article 9 of this By-Law commits an offence and is liable, in the case of a natural person, to a fine of not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$100,000, and in the case of a legal person, to a fine of not less than \$6,000 and not more than \$200,000 (*Art. 185 - Cultural Heritage Act*).

The Municipality reserves the right to require the reconstruction and restoration of any element covered by this By-Law that is demolished, altered or modified without authorization.

ARTICLE 13 EFFECT OF THIS BY-LAW

This By-Law takes effect on the date the special notice is served to the owner of the heritage immovable.

ARTICLE 14 LANGUAGE

In case of difference between French and English versions, the French version prevails.

ARTICLE 15 COMING INTO FORCE

This By-Law will come into force in accordance with the law.

**Jason Morrison,
Mayor**

**Natalie Black,
General Manager and
Clerk-Treasurer**

Notice of Motion given:	April 7 th , 2025
Deposit of Draft By-Law:	April 7 th , 2025
Public Consultation:	May 8 th , 2025
Adoption of By-Law:	July 7 th , 2025
Public Notice:	August 13 th , 2025

ANNEX A

St. Aidan's Church and its cemetery Heritage Site

ANNEX B

List of items inside the church affected by this regulation:

- Wooden church pews
- Altar
- Lectern
- Wooden chair
- Prayer stool
- Baptismal fountain