

**THE CORPORATION OF The TOWNSHIP OF PRINCE  
BY-LAW NO. 2018-14**

Being a By-law to designate the St. Aloysius Cemetery located on Part Section 32 SW ¼ RP 1R11974 Part 1 Prince Township, defined as Roll # 5766 000 000 44600 0000, as an architectural and historical property pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

**WHEREAS** Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, C. 0.18 as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural and historical value; and -

**WHEREAS** the Prince Township Heritage Committee has recommended to the Council that the St. Aloysius Cemetery, be designated an Historical and Cultural property; and


**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Prince has caused to be served on the owner of the St. Aloysius Cemetery and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspapers having general circulation in the municipality; and

**WHEREAS** no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of Prince Township enacts as follows:

- /
- 1) The real property known as the St. Aloysius Cemetery, more particularly described in Schedules 'A' and 'B' hereto, is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of historical and cultural value. The reasons for this designation are detailed on Schedule 'B' attached hereto.
  - 2) The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule 'A' hereto in the proper land registry office.
  - 3) The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspapers having general circulation in the municipality.

Enacted and Passed day of May 8, 2018.

  
Mayor, K. Lamming

  
Clerk, P. Greco

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2005-41

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in Prince Township, in the District of Algoma and Province of Ontario and being composed of 0.43 acres of land, between Second Line (Hwy 550) and St. Mary's River, Prince Part Section 32 SW ¼ RP 1R11974 Part 1

**LOCATION MAP**



SCALE 1 : 2,713



## **SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2018-14**

### **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION**

We are seeking an Ontario Heritage Site Designation for the St. Aloysius Cemetery, located in Gros Cap, Ontario, on Pinder Drive in Prince Township. The St. Aloysius Catholic Church started as a Jesuit mission for families in this area, and it served residents up until its closure several years ago.

Our records indicate that many of the gravesites belong to the Anishnaabe peoples. Several grave sites belong to non-First Nations people and individuals of Metis ancestry. Some of the earliest gravesites date back to the late 1890s, and it is assumed that many sites that are not known or registered may date back even further.

Although St. Aloysius Catholic Church is no longer in operation the fenced in cemetery property is still present and visible. Upkeep and maintenance of the property has been taken over by the generous volunteer efforts of a small group of local residents who want the property to look aesthetically appropriate and respectful to those who are buried there.

### **HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL**

The Bluffs of Gros Cap are rich in oral history and traditions that date back thousands of years. The Ojibwe people settled along those rugged shores to harvest the abundant Whitefish and Lake Trout stocks, to hunt the plentiful wild game found in its dense forests, and to harvest maple sap during the spring thaw of each year. As early as 300BC a major village was located here and there is evidence of two archaeological sites located in this general vicinity. In those early years, Gros Cap was primarily a seasonally occupied site.

In 1660 a major battle occurred at Iroquois Point just across from Gros Cap on the present-day American side of the border. It was between the Ojibwe people located at Gros Cap and their traditional enemies the Iroquois. The Ojibwe were victorious in this famous battle, and utilized the element of surprise in their attack.

Later, the region came under the influence of the voyageurs. Records dating back to 1744 show a voyageur presence here on the shores of Gros Cap. The voyageurs paddled freighter canoes for the North West Company out of Montreal. They used Gros Cap as a final resting site before beginning their traverse across mighty Lake Superior en route to the rendezvous site of Fort William at the head of Lake Superior. Often times smaller birch canoes were exchanged for much larger sea faring vessels that could handle the rough water of the big lake.

Gros Cap continued to grow and develop as a fishing village, and with European colonization, many non-native families settled there and called Gros Cap home.

Today, Gros Cap is a wonderful and diverse bedroom community for Sault Ste. Marie. The residents are comprised of First Nations, Metis, and non-First Nations people living together on this beautiful landscape that is part of the rugged Canadian Shield terrain. It is a destination for hikers, mountain bikers, water sport enthusiasts, adventurers, and folks who just want to get back to the wild side of nature. Gros Cap is also the starting point of the Lake Superior Water Trail, which is a vital component of the continent-wide Trans Canada Trail. Docks, and an official entry point to the Water Trail exist at the government dock and marina just a short stretch down the highway from the cemetery site.

## **SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2018-14**

### **STATEMENT of CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE or INTEREST**

The St. Aloysius cemetery preserved as an Ontario Heritage Site will only complement and enhance the story of Gros Cap and ensure that these rich oral and written histories are not lost with the passage of time. The Ontario Heritage designation of this cemetery will allow this property to become an educational tool for Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma students and their teachers. Understanding, and knowing our past is vital for any community to be able to move forward in a responsible and sustainable manner. In order to know where we are going, we must understand where we came from. The buried residents in this cemetery have Canadian stories to tell, and we must preserve this site so that these stories are not lost. It is the sentiment of this "concerned residents" group that the individuals buried in this cemetery deserve to be honoured for their contributions to our region's history. It is our duty and responsibility to care for and preserve the historical significance of this property for generations to come.

It is interesting to note that this cemetery property sits on a high ledge overlooking mighty Whitefish Bay and Lake Superior. Many of the remains contained within this cemetery are individuals who made their livelihood working the Big Lake as commercial fishermen. It is only fitting that they are able to watch over and care for the world's largest body of fresh water. They were and continue to be "The Stewards of the Lake".

### **FEATURES TO BE COVERED BY THE DESIGNATION**

The entire property is designated.

The heritage attributes to be preserved are as follows:

- existing grave markers- wooden and granite,
- pieces of wood on the ground that probably mark grave sites,
- rocks and rock piles that probably mark grave sites,
- Large wooden cross presently on the ground that either marked a grave site or acted as a cross for the whole cemetery,
- gate markers and gate at the entrance that were erected by the Prince Women's Institute,
- the grounds within the fenced cemetery.