The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Downtown Development Committee Agenda

Date: November 10, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Biggings Room, Civic Centre

As a courtesy meetings are available for viewing live on the City's YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/user/SaultSteMarieOntario

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

I acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council.

2. Adoption of Minutes 1

Resolved that the Minutes of _____ meeting be adopted as presented.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolved that the Agenda for _____ Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

5. Business Arising 4

5.1 Community Wellness Plan

5.2 Review: Downtown Development Committee Term of Reference

5.3 Downtown Survey

5.4 2027 Downtown Events

5.5 Communications and Social Media update

6. Next Meeting

7. Adjournment

Resolved that this Committee now adjourn.

Downtown Development Committee Minutes

September 24, 2026 3:00 pm

Present:	Mayor Shoemaker, I. Buratti, D. Houle, D. Marini, S. Stone, C. Ambeault, J. Naccarato, S. Maguire, M. Doan
Regrets:	J. Macdonald, M. O'Brien, T. Kerhanovich
Staff:	J. Ingram, R. Alfornon, S. Marchese

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved By J. Naccarato
Seconded By C. Ambeault

Resolved that the Minutes of June 9, 2026 meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By I. Buratti
Seconded By D. Houle

Resolved that the Agenda for September 24, 2026 Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Business Arising

5.1 Tariff-Related Cost Increases

Whereas the Government of Canada recently ceased negotiations with the U.S. government on a proposed tariff; and

Whereas the unsuccessful negotiations mean that 50% steel tariffs remain in place for the foreseeable future; and

Whereas an effect of the unsuccessful negotiations is that new U.S. tariffs have been placed on Canadian goods, and new counter-tariffs have been placed by Canada on American goods; and

Whereas tariffs are ultimately paid for by consumers, and the cost of doing business will increase as a result of these new tariffs for the City of Sault Ste. Marie;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council direct administration to take whatever actions are necessary, including changing purchase orders or finding alternative products to purchase to mitigate or avoid cost increases as a result of tariffs.

5.2 Review of previous Downtown Strategic Documents

Staff to circulate current Term of Reference in order for the committee to provide feedback for discussion at the next Downtown Development Committee meeting.

Staff to invite various departments to the next Downtown Development Committee meeting to review their strategic priorities and how they align with the committees Term of Reference.

5.3 Event success measurements

5.4 Downtown perception

Moved By D. Houle
Seconded By J. Naccarato

Motion: Staff draft questions for a downtown community survey and address questions of safety, cleanliness, frequency of visitation, limitations and public recommendation.

Carried

5.5 Identifying downtown beautification needs

5.6 You Belong Social media

6. Next Meeting

November 10, 2026 3:00 p.m.
Biggings Room

7. Adjournment

Downtown Sault Ste. Marie Survey

Please help us gather valuable information about the current state of Downtown Sault Ste. Marie and your perspective on its future.

Open

Did you know the City of Sault Ste. Marie has a Downtown Development Committee?

The Downtown Development Committee brings together downtown stakeholders, businesses, community leaders and the City to explore how the greater downtown area can be better supported.

What is the goal?

The committee is looking at how we can work together to better understand and proactively address the unique needs, opportunities and challenges facing our downtown.

Why does this matter?

A strong downtown is an important part of a strong community. This work supports the City's Corporate Strategic Plan and its vision for a vibrant, mixed-use downtown that serves as a **cultural, recreational and economic hub** for residents, businesses and visitors.

How can I contribute?

Your feedback helps the committee understand what is working, what could be improved, and what the downtown needs moving forward.

Age Group **Required**

To help us understand who we are serving, please identify your age group

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How often do you visit downtown? **Required**

- ○ Daily
- ○ At least weekly

- ○ Once per year
- ○ Less than once per year
- ○ I never visit downtown

On a typical visit, approximately how long do you spend downtown? Required

- ○ Less than 1 hour (Quick errand/drop-off)
- ○ 1 to 2 hours (Short trip/meal)
- ○ 3 to 5 hours (Half-day/work meeting/event)
- ○ 6 hours or more / All day (Full workday/extended leisure)

Stay in touch with all things downtown. Enter your email below to join our newsletter

Please rank the following aspects of our Downtown

Overall Downtown Experience Required



Cleanliness



Feeling safe during the day



Feeling safe in the evening/night



Parking Experience



Variety of Businesses/Services



Events and Activities



Appearance, streetscape and public spaces



Compared with six months ago, do you feel Downtown Sault Ste. Marie is: **Required**

- ○ Much Better
- ○ Somewhat Better
- ○ About the same
- ○ Somewhat worse
- ○ Much worse

What is one change, addition, or improvement you would most like to see in Downtown Sault Ste. Marie?

Your answer

Submit

Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more about a project, contact us below:

- 705-759-2500
- **info@cityssm.on.ca (mailto:info@cityssm.on.ca?subject=Website%20enquiry)**
- **saultstemarie.ca (http://saultstemarie.ca)**

(https://www.facebook.com/CitySSM) (https://www.instagram.com/CitySSM)

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