



PO Box 27, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L4V6

**** MEDIA RELEASE ****

**The Ontario Heritage Trust Recognizes Local Citizens
With Lieutenant Governor's Excellence in Conservation Heritage Award**
Bonnie Crook and Ron Tasker Receive Honour for Ham House Restoration

Bath—The Frontenac Heritage Foundation is pleased to see that the commitment to the restoration of the Ham House in Bath by Bonnie Crook and Ron Tasker has been recognized by the Ontario Heritage Trust with a Lieutenant's Governor's Excellence in Conservation Heritage Award.

Mayor Ric Bresee states: "The old Ham House was rapidly declining, and even at risk of demolition. Ron and Bonnie have put their heart and soul into this project and instead we now have a new crown jewel in the collection of important historic architecture in Bath."

Shirley Bailey, President of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation says: "For more than ten years, Bonnie and Ron with the assistance of their two children, have carefully restored Ham House with great attention to detail. Many people support the protection of heritage buildings in the theoretical sense, but few put their aspiration into day-to-day actions like Bonnie and Ron."

About the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards:

Established in 2007, the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards are annual juried awards administered by the Ontario Heritage Trust to recognize remarkable achievements in heritage conservation. These inspirational achievements signal the important role that heritage conservation plays in Ontario's communities, especially during this challenging time. In response to COVID-19, this year the award ceremony took place virtually as part of the Trust's annual Heritage Week celebrations

About the Ontario Heritage Trust:

The Ontario Heritage Trust is an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries. The Ontario Heritage Trust:

- conserves, interprets and shares Ontario's heritage,
- conserves provincially significant cultural and natural, tangible and intangible heritage,
- interprets Ontario's history, and
- celebrates its diversity and educates Ontarians of its importance in our society.

The Trust envisions an Ontario where we conserve, value and share the places and landscapes, histories, traditions and stories that embody our heritage, now and for future generations.

Details of the Ham House renovations can be found at pages 12 to 15 in the link below, as set out in the Awards Program for 2019 when Ron and Bonnie received one of the Foundation's Heritage Conservation Awards. <https://frontenacheritage.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2019-Awards-Booklet-Handout-Final.pdf>

For more information, contact Gus Panageotopoulos, V.P. of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation and Vice Chair of Loyalist Twp. Municipal Heritage Committee – 613-449-4500. Alternatively, email contact@frontenacheritage.ca

Feb. 18, 2021