

BYLAW NO. 1-2015

**A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF HOLDEN
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
TO DESIGNATE HOLDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE**

WHEREAS, Section 26 of the *Historical Resources Act*, RSA 2000, as amended, permits Council to designate any historic resource within a municipality, whose conservation it considers to be in the public interest, as a Municipal Historic Resource; and

WHEREAS the conservation of the Holden Lutheran Church, located at 4916 – 49 Avenue, appears to be in the public interest;

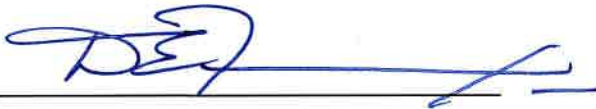
NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Holden, in regular meeting, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw shall be cited as the “Holden Lutheran Church Designation Bylaw”.
2. The historic resource commonly known as Holden Lutheran Church together with the land on which it is located, being legally described as Plan 3940W, Block 10, Lots 18-20, is hereby designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.
3. The Holden Lutheran Church and its heritage value is specifically described in Schedule “A”, which is attached to and is a part of this Bylaw.
4. The Municipal Historic Resource hereby designated in Section 2, and as described in Schedule “A”, shall not be removed, destroyed, disturbed, altered, rehabilitated, repaired, or otherwise permanently affected unless the proposed changes to the property are approved by the Village of Holden before the work proceeds.
5. Alterations proposed under Section 4 will be evaluated by the Village of Holden using the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*.
6. This bylaw takes effect as of the date of third and final reading.

READ A FIRST TIME this 19th day of January 2015

READ A SECOND TIME this 19th day of January 2015

READ A THIRD TIME and passed this 19th day of January 2015



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer

4916 49th Avenue

Holden Lutheran Church Building



Description of the Historic Place

The Holden Lutheran Church building is a one-storey structure with a front-facing gable roof, clapboard siding, an apse, and tripartite tower with a square base and belfry, and octagonal steeple topped by a Roman cross and a weathervane. It was constructed in 1915, a half-block east of Main Street at 4916-49th Avenue in the Village of Holden.

Heritage Value

This structure is significant for its association with early religious practice in Holden, for its association with the Lutheran church, for its Gothic Revival-influenced architectural style and as a village landmark.

The Holden Lutheran Church building represents the importance of religious practice in the early years of the village. Scandinavian settlers began meeting for religious services as early as 1904 in rural homes or schools. Two small groups merged in 1910 and formed the Holden Scandinavian Lutheran Church congregation. They continued to meet in members' homes, but as their numbers grew they were able to construct their own sanctuary. The value of faith in Holden's history is seen through the dedication of residents who gave their time, resources, talents, and energy to construct this building as a meeting place for worship. The design elements gave it a grand appearance, inspiring devotion and elevating religion in the community. The congregation went the extra mile to secure funding for an impressive bell; though overall the simplicity of the building materials speaks to the limited means of the prairie pioneers. Holden Lutheran Church was the second religious building constructed and dedicated in Holden, and it was regularly attended by the Lutheran congregation until they disbanded in the spring of 2010.

Holden Lutheran Church is valued for its lengthy association with the Lutheran Church denomination. An influx of Scandinavian settlers, mostly Norwegian, formed the Lutheran congregation in Holden under the constitution of the United Lutheran Church. This association was an important way to remain connected with the homeland and adapt to the new country. The building was a centre for spiritual growth, social connection and

charitable endeavour. The sanctuary was reserved for worship and ceremony, but the basement was utilized for suppers, teas, celebrations, and church meetings. The Lutheran Church Women raised funds to help with local utility costs and the pastor's salary as well as overseas Lutheran ministries. The building reflects the architecture of churches in the native land and stands as a reminder of the long presence of the Lutherans in Holden.

The Gothic Revival influenced style of the Holden Lutheran Church is an important contribution to the village's built heritage. Gothic Revival elements of the building, including the bell tower with a tall spire, are not found elsewhere in Holden. The steeple was removed in 1980 but was greatly missed by members of the church. It was rebuilt in 1983, using the original design and weathervane. Elements of the building are valued as unique pieces of local history, such as the original 2000 pound bell that was imported from Chicago. The pointed arch windows were originally fitted with plain glass, but over time, funds were donated for the coloured glass upgrade. The building has a dramatic appearance and adds character to the village with its largely unaltered 1915 exterior.

The Holden Lutheran Church is valued as a landmark within the Village of Holden. The tall church spire is visible throughout much of the community. The building is prominently situated across from the Holden Community Hall and close to the village's main commercial street. It is an anchor which evokes memories of the intrepid pioneers and those who followed them; their baptisms, weddings, and funerals that were held at this site.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage value of the Holden Lutheran Church is expressed in the form, massing, and materials, particularly:

Exterior

- The steeply pitched front-facing gable roof with wood shingles and exposed rafters beneath the eaves;
- The clapboard siding with corner boards;
- The five-sided apse with two pointed arch windows;
- The tripartite tower (base, belfry, and steeple);
- The octagonal steeple topped by a Roman cross and weathervane with '1915' in the tail; and
- The pattern, style and construction of all original windows and doors, including all pointed arch and coloured glass windows and the front entry double doors.

Interior

- The original wood flooring on the main level;
- The painted burlap covering with chair rail on lower portion of the exterior walls;
- The decorative newel posts and balustrade on the staircase access to the basement;
- The 2000 lb church bell from Chicago