

Groveside Cemetery Board

c/o Town of Whitby
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario, L1N 2M8
Cemetery Tel: (905) 655-3493

To: Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee
CC: Fuwing Wong, Commissioner, Financial Services/Treasurer
Jackie Lee, Secretary-Treasurer, Groveside Cemetery Board
From: Paul Jones, Chair, Groveside Cemetery Board
Date: March 9, 2023
Subject: Proposed Name Change – Pioneer Baptist Cemetery

Proposal:

The Town of Whitby's Groveside Cemetery Board is proposing that the name of Town's Pioneer Baptist Cemetery be changed to Olde Winchester Cemetery.

It should be noted that the Board anticipates giving public notice and seeking public input concerning the proposed name change and that will it require the support of Whitby Town Council and registration with the Bereavement Authority of Ontario.

Rationale:

The reasons for the proposed name change include:

- Only two interments occurred at the Cemetery in 2022. There is room for many more interments and a need to serve a growing population. It is believed the Cemetery would appeal to a broader public if the cemetery had a non-denominational name.
- The name Winchester recognizes one of the area's original names and preserves that heritage.

- It would appear there is no other cemetery in Ontario with Winchester in its name.
- “Pioneer” is already taken by the abandoned cemetery at Albert and Church streets in Brooklin that is a designated heritage site.

Backgrounders:

Attached are two backgrounders. One about Whitby’s Groveside Cemetery Board, its history, roles and responsibilities and the other a brief history on the Pioneer Baptist Cemetery.