



Briefing Memo

Office of the Director of Infrastructure Services

Date: **Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

RE: **Story for Proposed Plaque**

Draft Paragraph

This iconic bridge connects the communities of Amherstburg and LaSalle, crossing the River Canard near its mouth at the Detroit River. Situated in the shadow of historic St. Joseph Church, the River Canard Bridge is the only concrete tied arch or bowstring bridge that remains in the County Road network from an original inventory of four. It was constructed in 1937 with a span of 36 metres and underwent significant rehabilitations in 2001 and again in 2016. It is one of the most photographed and painted structures in all of Essex County and serves as a landmark for River Canard, one of the oldest European settlements in North America and the site of several significant skirmishes in the War of 1812. The unique features of this bridge have defined it as a candidate Heritage Bridge under the Ontario Heritage Act.