



September 4, 2019

Your Worship Don Darling and
Members of Common Council

Re: Heritage Conservation Areas By-Law – Phase One Revisions

Over the past two years, the Heritage Development Board has been involved with the review and revision of the *Saint John Heritage Conservation Areas By-Law*. Through many focus groups, workshops, and public meetings, the Board has worked with staff to create what the Board believes to be a progressive by-law, addressing the unique challenges that Saint John faces while allowing our remarkable heritage to continue to be conserved as a valuable asset to the city and its residents.

At the August 7th, 2019 meeting of the Heritage Development Board, members of the Board unanimously and enthusiastically approved a motion recommending to Common Council the approval of all proposed changes to the *Saint John Heritage Conservation Areas By-Law*. This is a piece of legislation that the Board feels adequately responds to the wants and needs of the community, while respecting and preserving the unique heritage character that Saint John possesses.

The Heritage Development Board has also reviewed three external requests for amendments to accompany this by-law. At its June 5th, 2019 meeting, with great regret, it recommended a motion to approve the removal of the designation for all properties in the King Street West Heritage Conservation Area.

At the same meeting, and following much discussion, it recommended a motion to deny the designation for the property at 152 Watson Street. While the majority of Board members believed it to be the appropriate decision at the time, it was made clear that a larger policy discussion will need to take place on spot designations, including the City's stewardship of its own buildings.

Finally, at its August 7th, 2019 meeting, the Board recommended to Common Council an amendment to allow for limited additional height beyond the maximum for a proposed development at the corner of Canterbury and Grannan Streets, and to allow no step back at the upper storey on Grannan Street. The final design will still need to be reviewed by the Board, but the Board is comfortable with the massing that the applicant has proposed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the name 'Bob Boyce'. The signature is stylized with a large, looped 'B' and a cursive 'o'.

Bob Boyce, Chair
Heritage Development Board