



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**

**Councillor** Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

June 3, 2010

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Salvation Army is the current owner of the William Harris House, an historic house located at 450 Pape Avenue and originally built in 1899. The home was sold to the Salvation Army in 1930 and renamed Bethany Home. Over the years, it has been modified for use as administrative offices, a day care centre and, most recently, as a licensed rooming house to accommodate homeless men who had to be relocated during the construction of the new Salvation Army Harbour Light Centre on Jarvis Street.

The Harbour Light Centre has now opened and the men have been returned to the new facility. As a result the building at 450 Pape Avenue is vacant and surplus to the Salvation Army's needs.

The Toronto Preservation Board has recently recommended that Council include the property on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties and state its intention to designate the property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The report will be before the Toronto and East York Community Council on June 22nd and Council at its meeting of July 6 and 7, 2010.

In light of the long history of this property being operated for non-profit purposes and the need for low- and moderate-income artist live work accommodation in Toronto I am asking for your support to have the Affordable Housing Office work with the Salvation Army and the non-profit housing sector to explore the potential of converting the building to artist live work space.

Motion:

That the Affordable Housing Office work with the Salvation Army and the non-profit housing sector to determine the support for and economic feasibility of converting the surplus vacant building and site at 450 Pape Avenue to affordable non-profit live work housing for artists.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher  
City Councillor Ward 30, Toronto-Danforth



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