

June 1, 2016

Toronto Preservation Board 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario c/o <u>Ibetten2@toronto.ca</u>

PB15.7Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the OntarioHeritage Act - 43 Millwood Road (Ward 22)

Chair Jenny Rieger and Members of the Toronto Preservation Board

We are writing with delight to see a motion of Intention to Designate for 43 Millwood Road, the Metropolitan Toronto School for the Deaf and the Davisville Junior Public School and Day Nursery (1961-2) so soon after the public lecture by Robert Moffatt in ACO Toronto's Toronto Modern to Post Modern lecture series. As you are aware, this school was part of an important series of high design and quality schools built under the Toronto District School Board chief architect, Frederick C. Etherington, project architect Peter Pennington. Construction costs were similar to first clas office development, something that is no longer the case for school construction. The designation report does an excellent job of explaining the property's significance.

ACO Toronto has been collaborating with a group of important Toronto architects, Kim Storey, Carol Kleinfeldt, Roman Mychaelowyz, Louigi Ferrara, Monica Contreras, as well as former ACO President Lloyd Alter regarding possible future uses for the property. Alarmed by a story in the Toronto Star announcing the building's imminent demolition, the group, dubbed the Mod Squad, formed to try to save the building. Their concerns were made public in a Globe and Mail article written by Dave LeBlanc, published February 4, 2016. Even though this building can no longer serve the needs of the school, it is our opinion that it can and should be repurposed as part of the redevelopment of the site. Unfortunately, conserving the existing building was dismissed early in community discussions, and unless the City designates, this public property will be at extreme risk.

The Lord Lansdowne School on Robert Street, designated under Part IV is another project of this collaboration. We hope that over time all of the important buildings of this team will be listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Property. We will be more than pleased to assist with research.

Sincerely yours,

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