CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 559-2009

To designate the property at 151 King Street East (St. Lawrence Hall) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 151 King Street East (St. Lawrence Hall) as being of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as 151 King Street East and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality as required by the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule “A” to this by-law; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

The Council of the City of Toronto HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The property at 151 King Street East, more particularly described in Schedule “B” and shown on Schedule “C” attached to this by-law, is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule “B” to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.

3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property at 151 King Street East and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be posted on the City’s web site for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4, Notice requirements under the Ontario Heritage Act.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 27th day of May, A.D. 2009.

DAVID R. MILLER, Mayor

ULLI S. WATKISS, City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)
REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The property at 151 King Street East is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural resource value or interest. Constructed for the City of Toronto in 1850, St. Lawrence Hall is architecturally significant as an excellent example of Renaissance Revival design by the important early Toronto architect, William Thomas. The building is historically notable as the location of major public events in the mid-to late-19th century, including musical performances, social gatherings and political meetings. The site fell into disuse until the 1950s when the National Ballet of Canada occupied the premises. In 1967, the City of Toronto restored St. Lawrence Hall as the City’s Centennial project, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Canada’s Confederation. Located on the southwest corner of King Street East and Jarvis Street, the site contains the ‘12 Apostles Court’ facing Market Street and a series of gas lamp standards along King, Jarvis and Market Streets. St. Lawrence Hall is a landmark in the Town of York neighbourhood and contextually significant in its proximity to St. James’ Cathedral to the west and the Second Toronto City Hall and St. Lawrence Market to the south.

St. Lawrence Hall is designed in the Renaissance Revival style, drawing on the architecture of the Italian Renaissance and incorporating Canadian iconography. The heritage attributes of the building are found on the exterior walls and roof, and on the interior. Rising three stories with a modified T-shaped plan, the building is clad and trimmed with brick and sandstone. The slate-clad mansard roof has with semi-circular dormers with mouldings and finials, and extended eaves with modillions. Above the roof, a Corinthian colonnade rises from an octagonal base to support a cupola with four clock faces, a flag standard and, inside, a bell. The principal (north) façade is organized into three sections with an entrance portico flanked by wings. At the base of the portico, rusticated piers with archivolts organize a trio of round-arched openings containing fanlights, doors and windows (modified from the original). Sculpted heads representing the deities of the St. Lawrence and Niagara Rivers and Lake Ontario surmount the arches, while the spandrels incorporate sculpted insignia, fruits and flowers. Above the entrances, a colonnade is comprised of four two-storey semi-engaged Corinthian columns that are linked by a balustrade. The window openings, placed between the columns, feature bracketed surrounds, some with pilasters, cornices and architraves. The colonnade supports a pediment with modillion blocks and dentils, a nameplate and a sculpted tympanum containing the City crest. The attic storey, extending above the portico, displays round-arched openings with keystones incorporating sculpted images of ‘music’ and ‘mirth’ beneath a parapet highlighted with guilloche, acroteria and the sculpted lyre of Apollo. On either side of the portico, the ground floor contains four shop fronts where multi-paned window openings are organized by decorated piers. Two-storey piers with Corinthian capitals rise above a cornice with modillions to divide the second- and third-floor window openings, the former with iron railings. The pattern and detailing of the fenestration with multi-paned windows is blended with simple openings on the side walls (east and west) and south wing, where the oversized arch on the east face is an important element.
The interior elements identified in the Reasons for Designation are found in the first-floor entrance vestibule and staircase, and the third-floor anterooms and Great Hall. The marble floors, panelled walls, cornice mouldings and door surrounds in the vestibule, the panelled walls adjoining the staircase to the upper floors, and the mouldings, surrounds and doors in the third-floor anterooms are important elements. In the Great Hall, the door and window surrounds, the pilasters and cornice mouldings, the coved ceiling with plasterwork incorporating medallions and lyres, the fixtures and chandelier (not original), the fireplace with a marble mantel, and the gallery are significant features.
SCHEDULE “B”

Part of PIN 21401-0093 (R)

Part of Market Street (Closed by By-law Nos. 291-67 and 40-70, FIRSTLY), part of the Market Block, Town of York Plan and Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Plan 151E designated as PARTS 1 and 2 on Plan 66R-24174

City of Toronto and Province of Ontario
Registry Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Sketch No. PS-2009-037 dated March 25, 2009, as set out in Schedule “C”.