



Chair and Members
Toronto and East York Community Council
100 Queen St. West
Toronto ON, M5H 2N2

November 10, 2015

Dear Chair and Members:

Nomination of Beaconsfield Avenue for Heritage Conservation District Study

The history of Beaconsfield Village dates back to the mid-1800s when a series of streets were built on the former Brookfield estate in the area bounded by Ossington Avenue, Queen Street West, Dufferin Street and Dundas Street West. Beaconsfield Avenue in particular became the trademark street of the newly built neighbourhood with its beautiful Victorian row, and semi-detached houses. It was named after British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, who was given the title 'Lord of Beaconsfield' by Queen Victoria.

The houses on Beaconsfield Avenue and surrounding streets were built circa the 1880s and 1890s. Many of the houses on Beaconsfield Avenue, between Queen Street West and Argyle Street, have been designated 'Heritage Buildings' by City Council, as they are well crafted examples of the late 19th century house form buildings that define, maintain and support the historical character of the street.

To date, the distinct built form on Beaconsfield Avenue, between Queen Street West and Argyle Street, remains substantially intact; however, there are fears amongst community members that future building applications may eventually disrupt the character and heritage of this street. A Heritage Conservation District study would help ensure that the late 19th century Victorian style built street is evaluated and preserved.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Toronto and East York Community Council

- a) Nominate Beaconsfield Avenue, between Queen Street West and Argyle Street, for consideration as a Heritage Conservation District;
- b) Request the Manager, Heritage Preservation Services, City Planning to review the nomination and bring forward a study authorization report should the area demonstrate sufficient cultural heritage value; and
- c) Request the Manager, Heritage Preservation Services to consider the nominated area for prioritization, should it satisfy all of the Council approved prioritization criteria

Sincerely,

City Councillor Ana Bailão
Ward 18, Davenport