

Helliwell Place Residents' Association

c/o Property Manager, Helliwell Place Office, 980 Broadview Avenue, Toronto ON M4K 3Y1
HelliwellResidentsAssociation@gmail.com

August 24, 2016

Dear Members of the Toronto Preservation Board:

Re: PB 16.5 Recommendation by Toronto City Planning Division
to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act - 958 Broadview Avenue

On behalf of the Helliwell Place Residents' Association (HPRA), we are writing to offer our full support for the designation of the Chester Public School at 958 Broadview Avenue for its cultural heritage values and heritage attributes.

Helliwell Place is a residential condominium at 980 Broadview Avenue with over 200 residents. In addition to being immediate neighbours, we share a history with the Chester Public School and the Estonian House and community. Many of our residents have lived at Helliwell Place for decades and have watched the changes in our community. While we welcome change and recognize that we will see more, we are concerned that we do not continue to lose the important heritage buildings in our neighbourhoods. Rather, we want to see rare historical buildings such as 958 Broadview preserved and highlighted.

Last year, our residents, along with residents from across the area, participated in the Broadview Avenue Planning Study coordinated by the City of Toronto and our City Councillor Mary Fragedakis. During the study, HPRA consistently requested that the remaining heritage buildings in the Broadview area of East York be identified and protected. We are very pleased with the work that was completed with the Broadview Avenue Planning Study and the amendments that were made to Toronto's Official Plan as a result of the study.

We are aware that Estonian House is planning to redevelop the 958 Broadview Avenue site but believe that development and the preservation of history are not contradictory goals. We see any redevelopment as an opportunity to restore the original Chester Public School building as part of the future design. This would allow for the redevelopment of the Estonian House to respect the Official Plan Guidelines and the Broadview Avenue Planning Study guidelines while reclaiming this longstanding community landmark.

HPRA urges the Preservation Board to move forward with the designation of the Chester Public School at 958 Broadview Avenue.

Sincerely,
Todd Ross
Peter Haidelmayer
Magda Wesolkowska

Executive Team
Helliwell Place Residents' Association (HPRA)

Copy: Councillor Mary Fragedakis