

PB21. 4.4



(SLNA) 230 The Esplanade Toronto ON M5E 1T4 slna@slna.ca www.slna.ca

March 22, 2017

Lourdes Bettencourt
2nd Floor, West Tower, City Hall
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Toronto Preservation Board
teycc@toronto.ca

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CH 2ND FLOOR
2017 MAR 22 A 11: 30

Re: PB21.4 Amendment of Designating By-law – 260 King Street East (including the entrance addresses at 254, 256, and 266 King Street East, 427 and 435 Adelaide Street East, and 157 Princess Street)

We have registered to speak tomorrow and also wanted to circulate this letter in advance. St. Lawrence Neighbourhood is an incorporated not-for-profit (1982) organization that represents 30,000 residents in downtown Toronto. Under our bylaws our objectives are: to enhance the quality of life in the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood; encourage change and development beneficial to all residents, visitors and businesses in our area; strengthen the heritage character; to encourage a sense of community within our area. Also the SLNA has a sophisticated development committee that works with City planners and developers. Their mandate is to ensure that new developments in our area follow City policies. The SLNA is dedicated to helping the St. Lawrence neighbourhood maintain its international reputation as a model for a diverse, mixed-income, multicultural, healthy, and safe-living neighbourhood.

The SLNA supports the City's decision to create a Heritage Conservation District in this area of the City. As we wait for the status of this District we are supporting this Designating By-law knowing that this area is experiencing extreme pressure from developers. We welcome development however we need to ensure that heritage is incorporated not erased as new development builds upon the district.

In our neighbourhood we look at architecture over time as building blocks. We do not want to mimic heritage buildings and we don't want to destroy them either. It would be sad to see these buildings disappear. Designated heritage buildings should also not be subject to facades at any time.

This site is the centre of where the story of the city started, this is where Toronto began, the Town of York, the original 10 blocks. This particular block needs to be protected in its entirety. As the Staff Report reflects “contextually, the property at 260 King Street East supports and maintains the historical character of the Old Town where the Drug Trading Company Complex occupies one of the original 10 blocks reserved for the Town of York. This location contributes to the extended St. Lawrence neighbourhood that evolved in the 19th and 20th centuries from its beginnings as the centerpiece of the Town of York to a mixed commercial and industrial area interspersed with institutional landmarks that include St. James Cathedral and St. Lawrence Hall.”

This block must be protected because of its heritage value and even more so as it is in the original 10 blocks. Again the SLNA urges the Board to approve the Staff Report.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kavanagh, President
SLNA

cc. Councillor McConnell
SLNA Board of Directors