July 2, 2019

Planning and Housing Committee
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
phc@toronto.ca

Re: Toronto Agenda Item 2019.PH7.11 - City-wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study (July 3, 2019)

Dear Planning and Housing Committee,

The National Trust for Canada is writing to encourage City of Toronto Planning and Housing Committee and Toronto City Council to support the implementation of the Toronto Heritage Survey. As proposed, the Survey follows current best practices in other major North American cities and will provide important baseline information and a strong understanding of civic heritage resources.

Founded in 1973, the National Trust for Canada (formerly known as the Heritage Canada Foundation) is a national membership-based charity that promotes an approach to heritage conservation that is vibrant and dynamic: linked to social justice, the environment, sustainable living, and the cultural diversity of Canada. The National Trust’s current work is focused on engaging communities, working with corporate partners and donors, building the strength of grassroots organizations, and launching new initiatives that are changing the game for historic places in Canada.

By embarking on the Toronto Heritage Survey, the City of Toronto will be joining leading Canadian municipalities who are working to better understand and manage their heritage resources. These resources contribute to social and economic prosperity by defining our unique sense of place, supporting cohesive and resilient communities, and contributing to environmental sustainability through adaptive re-use. Heritage conservation and managing change in the built environment are not mutually exclusive objectives. The Survey process has the potential to engage residents across Toronto and provide them with an opportunity to articulate sites that are of value to them. Once complete, the Survey will also provide the City of Toronto with a vital tool to sensitively manage its built environment.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Faulknor
Acting Executive Director
afaulknor@nationaltrustcanada.ca 613-237-1066 x225