



December 2nd, 2021

Ms. Ellen Devlin
2nd floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: PB29.1 221 Sterling Road - Notice of Intention to Designate a Property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act

Dear Ms. Devlin,

I am writing with regard to the recommendation made by The Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning which suggests that City Council state its intention to designate the property at 221 Sterling Road (including active entrances at 225 and 227 Sterling Road) under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act in accordance with the Statement of Significance.

I have reviewed the report and have been working closely with Staff and members of the community, including many of the existing tenants in the building for quite some time. Development pressure began ratcheting up in the area during the past two years and for this reason I initiated the Bloor Street Study - St Helens Avenue to Perth Avenue in July 2020. This study commissioned a Cultural Heritage Resource Assessment (CHRA) that involved Community Consultation Meetings and separate Heritage Focus Group sessions with my office, Heritage Staff and area residents to look more closely at potential sites for designation.

The resulting Planning Framework report inclusive of the CHRA was tabled at Toronto & East York Community Council in June 2021. Community Council then heard from many deputants who are tenants of the building and through this meeting I moved to convene a working group to address the preservation of arts and cultural spaces in the study area. I participated alongside staff and area residents in the arts and culture working group meeting in October where we heard first-hand and in greater detail about the unique value inherent in 221 Sterling Road; as a building and as a relatively affordable place where artists and cultural creators have been thriving for decades. The heritage report for action that is before you today would not have been possible without the detailed input we received through the process and I am very grateful for the participation of the residents and Staff.

1/2



anabailão
TORONTO **DAVENPORT**
CITY COUNCILLOR



I wanted to ensure the Toronto Preservation Board is aware that I support the analysis presented in the report. I look forward to the continued work with Staff, community and the developer to preserve these spaces that are so vital for arts and cultural activities in the area.

Sincerely,

Ana Bailão,
Deputy Mayor
Councillor, Ward 9 – Davenport

Cc: John Elvidge, City Clerk

2/2