Registrar – City Clerk's Office

Dear Registrar

Please accept this email to notify you of my VERY strong objection to the inclusion of 1771 Bayview on the Heritage Registry.

I am a single woman. My former husband, cc'd here, owns the other unit above, and he will be registering his objection to this proposed Heritage designation as well.

I have owned my unit since 1996. I have lived there, and kept it, with the vision that I would be able to sell if upon my retirement, and get a fair market value. While there are cases to be made for homes to retain their value with a heritage designation, that is NOT the case with these ones, as they are on a major roadway, and next to public transportation. Their value lies in their land value, and, in keeping with the current needs of the city, should be able to be sold to a developer, should that be the wish of those who own other units, to provide much needed accommodations for others.

Their future value, and one upon which I was counting for the many years I have lived there, was in its eventual sale to a developer. I am not alone in my expectation of this. These failing units are crumbling, and I am inviting you to come and have a walk through to see what will be needed to be done in order for these buildings to be made liveable for future generations. I know that I do not have the money to shore up the crumbling walls, to fix the cracked brick, to underpin the driveways, to remove the asbestos, and more. For a decision to be made that I will be on the hook to do that, after 30 years of living there, is a punishment that I do not deserve after a lifetime of service to others.

A heritage designation forces me, someone without access to that kind of money, to spend the rest of my life keeping my property up for the benefit of others. I am also very aware that a tenant to the north, who works for the City, began this process so that he can continue to live in his below market rent in perpetuity.

I am also aware that when the Gairloch building completes, there will be many new owners who will delight in those of us on the East side maintaining a nice sightline for them, but once again it will be at my expense, and at the expense of the others who are likely in the same position. I have cc'd one of the management team from that build, in this email. I suspect that he would agree that if all other people in the neighbourhood have had the opportunity to sell their buildings to developers, it is not fair or equitable that some few of us, especially those of us single women, to have to pay for others enjoyment.

IF this heritage designation goes through, I would expect a fair offering from the City of Toronto for those of us impacted, to receive funds such that the crumbling building can be built up to a safe standard.

In the meanwhile, I would appreciate an email back, explaining what can be done to keep the Heritage train from leaving the station. If the buildings are of such great value, I suspect that the City could purchase them and relocate them to a museum when the time comes.

Or, I believe that the City own two buildings immediately to the south of the 'one day to be completed' Bayview/Eglinton subway. If heritage buildings are needed, then those would make the most sense to be selected for protection. Surely the city doesn't need more than one or two 'Tudor Revival styling' houses to memorialize a former local builder and property developer. If he were alive today, as a developer, he would be the first to say... "Don't hamstring hardworking people' to prevent future development.

I would also appreciate a meeting date to be set up for those of use who live in these buildings to have a voice. This process.. A notice 'after the fact', doesn't make me feel very good at all about being part of a community that I thought cared about individuals.