HSB Inc.

HÉRITAGE SAINT-BONIFACE

February 24, 2022

City Council of the City of Winnipeg – Meeting of February 24,2022

Re: Report A – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development Dated January 17, 2022

1. List of Historical Resources – Nomination of St. Boniface Police Station/Jail/County Courthouse, 227 Provencher Boulevard

Good morning your worship, councillors. Thank you for allowing me to address you today.

My name is Walter Kleinschmit, President of Héritage Saint-Boniface.

I'm here to speak in favour of the recommendation of the SPC on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development who concurred with the Historical Buildings and Resources Committee's recommendation, to add to the list of Historical Resources 227 Provencher Boulevard.

227 Provencher was designed and built-in harmony of the civic campus, or 'Le carré civique' de Saint Boniface, which was initiated in 1906 with the construction of the City Hall and Fire Hall. The campus provided in a central place the resources for the administration, civic protection (fire and law and order), and delivery of community health. 'Le carré civique has since been enriched with a Jardin de sculpture and an event stage, as exists in Old Market Square.

The Winnipeg Act of 1971, changed the political structure and administration mechanisms and needs of the city of Winnipeg, but it did not change the existence of the many communities which make up our city. Today's subject is central to the identity, the history, and the continuing evolution and aspirations of St. Boniface community. The civic campus is integral to our collective memory, 'notre patrimoine', and the continuing evolution and renewal of our cultural identity, our Francophonie.

The proposed character defining elements listed do not limit the ability of the building to be updated to meet today's needs. This is important as it helps secure the economic viability of a historical asset. This is in line with articles 18 (1) and (2) of By-Law 55/2014 which provides for the consideration of economic viability of conserving the resource. The By-law protects our past and provides the ability of a building have a sustainable future.

It is now evident that Dr. Frechette will not be impacted adversely by the Historical designation. He can proceed as he envisioned when he purchased the building. The report submitted to the city council meeting of December 5, 2012, in support of the sale of 227 Provencher by the city to Drs Mark and Sharon Frechette stated:

"… Drs. Marc and Sharon Frechette intend to preserve the building without modifying the historic architecture that is the land and building at 227 Provencher Boulevard for the benefit and appreciation of area residents." A statement made under the prior by-law on Historical Resources, and is now easier to fulfill with the new by-law on this matter.

Heritage St. Boniface gave their support for the sale in 2012, and continues to considers the planned use of the resource as a medical centre, an excellent and necessary use.

In conclusion

1. Heritage Saint-Boniface strongly and without reservation recommends that the city agrees to list 227 Provencher Boulevard as a Historical Resource.
2. We also support the use of the building as a medical centre as proposed by Drs Mark and Sharon Frechette and we offer them our assistance and support to achieve this.

Thank you. I will be pleased to answer any question.

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