March 9, 2023

To the Executive Policy Committee



I am in support of the proposed designation of Crescentwood-Enderton Park as a Heritage Conservation District (HCD) and the HCD Plan.

My sincere apologies for not being able to support the application in person due to work commitment.

Our neighbourhood has a unique character largely due to the historic houses and green spaces.



Most of the homes in this area have been built at the beginning of the 20th century. The architecture of the homes is unique and characteristic for that era. These homes are an illustration of Winnipeg's history. These homes tell a story of Winnipeg's history.

By protecting historic homes and neighbourhoods, Winnipeg heritage will be protected. Heritage is important because it provides clues to the past and how society has evolved. This neighbourhood is unique in character and one of the most beautiful neighbourhoods of Winnipeg. It is a destination for visitors to show the beautiful side of Winnipeg and for movie companies. If not protected, history, heritage & character will be lost.



I went to University in Rotterdam. This was the least favourite city of the Netherlands to study, since the heart of the city was lost after it was bombed during the Second World War. The city is currently known for an occasional interesting architectural building or bridge, however it does not have the heart and character that most European cities have.

When moving to Winnipeg, we were positively surprised to find this green neighbourhood with preserved historic buildings, so close to downtown Winnipeg. That truly is a unique quality of this city: to have green neighbourhoods with single family housing so close to the city centre. And for Europeans to even find a historic home!



Culture and heritage do need protection, otherwise they are at the mercy of developers who want to make a living and temporarily increase in employment all at the cost of history and heritage. Replacing these beautiful historic homes by cubes.



These days there is more awareness about sustainability. Avoiding loss of these buildings that are built with high quality materials, will reduce waste. Recycling and upcycling should be encouraged.

In addition, protection of green spaces is important to reduce risk for heat domes in case of heat waves and not to drown out nature: if there is too much of the surface area covered by building/driveway, or if buildings are too high, causing too much shade, trees and vegetation cannot grow. Green spaces are beneficial to physical and mental health of our citizens. This neighbourhood benefits the city and its citizens, but it does need protection to avoid destruction.



Kind regards,
Els de Gussem.

