



April 14th, 2021

Members of the City Council,

RE: Budget Request- Options for Regulating Heritage and Architectural Design

Heritage Regina submits this letter in support of the recommendation to allocate \$155,000.00 to fund the development of recommendations and guidelines to regulate heritage and architectural design in the Lakeview and Cathedral areas.

In the past 30 years since the inception of the Heritage Holding Bylaw, development and growth in the City of Regina has changed the landscape of our heritage neighbourhoods. Demolition, Infill development, and intensification efforts have impacted these neighbourhoods and left citizens concerned for the future of their community and for the heritage resources that tell the story of our past.

In recent years City Administration has recognized the need for a more wholesome heritage policy and current work on that policy has made advances in the efforts to identify our heritage inventory, ensure maintenance of designated properties and support owners of heritage properties. The Infill Guidelines were recently incorporated into the Bylaws in 2019 and offer some assurances of continuity within neighbourhoods. Unfortunately, these efforts are not enough to ensure that the oldest neighbourhoods in Regina, where the bulk of our heritage assets exist, will continue to be representative of our past, our founders, craftsman, architects, community leaders, designers and everyday people who took pride in their community.

An investment in a consultation on ways to regulate heritage neighbourhoods is an investment with great return. Officially identifying heritage neighbourhoods, creates pride of place for the entire community. Heritage neighbourhoods attract visitors to our city and attract like minded property owners willing to go that extra mile to maintain their streetscapes and neighbour characteristics. Establishing clear direction for renovation, design, restoration, and development in these neighbourhoods, removes the adversarial situation that currently exists when property owners want to demolish, change, or redevelop heritage properties only

to find themselves in controversy with the neighbourhood. The cost (time and money) of the current process of demolition permits and designations for even one property exceeds the cost of this consultation.

We are concerned however that the current recommendation identifies only two heritage neighbourhoods for which this work will be done. Heritage Regina feels that the city needs to establish a definition of “heritage neighbourhood” and subsequently ensure that any other neighbourhoods that meet the definition are assessed for suitability for a heritage type control zone(s).

We strongly encourage City Council to vote in favor of this proposal

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Schmidt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jackie Schmidt