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**CITY OF WELLAND**

Office of the City Clerk  
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Welland, ON L3B 3X4  
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O5-111

May 27, 2005

Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3

Dear Sir/Madam:

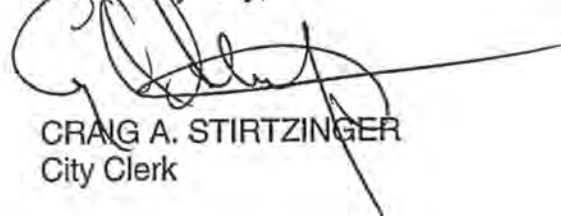
**Re: Proposed Designation Under  
Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act  
The Mizpah Mission/Italian Pentecostal Church  
400 King Street**

*\*Wait for  
B-LAW?*

In accordance with the requirements of Section 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act, enclosed herewith please find Notice of Intention to Designate the above-referenced structure under Part IV of the legislation.

For your reference, I have attached a copy of the Council resolution and the background report prepared for the Welland Heritage Committee and City Council.

Yours very truly,

  
CRAIG A. STIRTZINGER  
City Clerk

CAS:lb

*Attachments*

cc: - Ms. Marnie Swayze, Welland Heritage Committee Chair  
- Ms. Nora Reid, Welland Heritage Committee Secretary

*6/12/05  
↓  
RC*



In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act,  
R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18

And in the matter of the structure  
and property known municipally as  
"The Mizpah Mission/Italian Pentecostal Church"

### **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Welland intends to designate the property known as "The Mizpah Mission/Italian Pentecostal Church" and located municipally at 400 King Street as a property of historical interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

#### **REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:**

Built as the "Mizpah Mission" of the Methodist Church in 1917 and one of a number of early 20th century Methodist missions directed toward the expanding numbers of Italian immigrants working in Canada's industries, this church provided worship services to the Italian community in their native language for the better part of a century. It was constructed on land owned by the Plymouth Cordage Company in the heart of "The Village" – homes built for the Cordage Company's employees between 1905 and 1918, the area that became the core of Welland's first Italian community.

After the union of Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregationalists in 1925 the Mizpah Mission became the Italian United Church under the auspices of the All People's Mission of Crowland, superintended by the Reverend Dr. Harvey Forster. Between 1954 and 1965 the church building was shared by the Italian United and the Hungarian Reformed United congregations.

In 1965 it became the first permanent home of The Italian Pentecostal Church (Chiesa Petecostale Italiana). The Italian Pentecostal movement began in Welland in 1922 with services held first in private homes and later in rented accommodations. Pentecostal services in the Italian language were held at the church from 1965 until the mid-1990's. Since 1998 the building has been the home of Freedom in Christ Ministries.

A small, red brick church, it was constructed in the Romanesque Revival style popular for Methodist churches around the turn of the 20th century. Its central square tower with double stepped buttresses has been altered from its original form by the addition of a gable roof. A modest amount of decorative detailing is provided by Italianate style segmentally arched windows capped by brick voussoirs with exaggerated concrete keystones. The interior still retains its original pews and patterned tin ceiling.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation may be filed with the Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Welland no later than the 4th day of July, 2005.

Dated at the City of Welland this 4th day of June, 2005.

CRAIG A. STIRTZINGER  
City Clerk  
City Hall, 411 East Main Street  
WELLAND, ON L3B 3X4