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CITY of TRATFORD Corporate Services

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT SECTION 29, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES AT THE FOLLOWING MUNICIPAL ADDRESS IN THE CITY OF STRATFORD IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation 77 Bloor Street West Cultural Programs Branch, Heritage Properties Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Stratford intends to designate the property at the following municipal address as a property of architectural and historical value or interest under Section 29, of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18

96-100 Downie Street - Reasons for Designation

The Victoria Hotel was built in 1867 for the Honourable Donald McDonald, Liberal Senator for Perth County. The Senator sold off a block of surrounding lots to the City where the existing City Hall is located. This landmark building remained the Victoria Hotel until 1913. In 1880, one of its most famous hotel-keeps was John O'Donoghue. He was Mayor of Stratford 1897-1898, and was responsible for the laying of the original cornerstone at City Hall. According to the Beacon Herald, he was considered one of Stratford's best mayors. This building is of Georgian style, characterized by its symmetry, order and formality. Its Gothic gable and Italianate brackets are features of other styles that were gaining popularity at that time, uncluttered. The structure is well proportioned and symmetrical. All parts are equally balanced from the central entranceway, now missing, to the doors and windows. The entrance portico, balcony and large chimneys have all been removed. A trefoil is located under the gable. The property's corner setting at Downie and George Street is important to the streetscape and the downtown core. Reasons for designation include one of the earliest downtown brick buildings in Stratford; this is a landmark building in the core area, important to the streetscape; there are few Georgian style buildings in Stratford, especially in the downtown area.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, shall be served on the Clerk of the City of Stratford, by the 8th day of January, 1999. The *Ontario Heritage Act* provides that where a notice of objection has been served, the Council shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

DATED at the City of Stratford this 9^{th} day of December, 1998.

Joan L. Thomson - Acting City Clerk