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Notice of Intention to Designate – Kenricia Hotel

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JUN - 8 2007
CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora intends to designate the property being the Kenricia Hotel, on the corner of Main Street and Second Street South, legal description PLAN 3 BLK 2 PARTS LOT 6,7,9 and all lot 8, as a property of historical value or interest under Part IV of *The Ontario Heritage Act* (RSO 1990, Ch. O,18). A By-law to designate the property is scheduled before Kenora City Council on Monday, July 16, 2007.

Reasons for Designation:

The Kenricia Hotel is Northern Ontario's best example of a Beaux-Arts influenced hotel. The architectural features of the Kenricia represent the reaction to Victorian frivolity (high society and intellectualism) through a return to classical traditions. This era (1900 to 1930) is referred to as Edwardian Classicism.

The hotel was built on the main corner of downtown Kenora - Main and Second Streets South. The original blueprint showed the Main Street wing to be exactly twice the size of the eventual construction. Apparently financial difficulties which plagued the project over its three-year construction dictated some adjustments to the plan. In the end, only half the wing was built. While it was anticipated that the hotel would open in 1908, delays, mostly finance-related, prevented the completion of the hotel until 1910.

The hotel officially opened for business on August 20, 1910.

The name of the hotel was changed from the Tourist Hotel to the Kenricia (a contraction of "Kenora" and "Patricia" district) Hotel in 1938.

As a landmark, the Kenricia surpasses in height and presence other more traditional landmark buildings such as the City Hall and local churches. Its visual prominence is confirmed by viewers arriving in Kenora by waterways or by road: it commands the attention of the viewer. (In fact, at the turn of the century – it literally must have represented the landmark of civilization to people arriving by boat).

Additional information on the proposed designation is available at the Planning Department.

Any person may send by registered mail, or deliver to the Clerk of the City of Kenora, or to the City Planner, notice of their objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the City of Kenora will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

The last day for filing objections is July 13, 2007.

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