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OFFICE OF THE CLERK

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

OCT 11 2013

RECEIVED

Registered Mail

October 10, 2013

To: Mr. Sean Fraser
The Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto ON M5C 1J3

IN THE MATTER OF THE *ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT*, R.S.O. 1990
CHAPTER O.18, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND AND PREMISES
IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED AS

Property Description: Lot 59, Judge's Plan 10030
Municipal Address: 41 Elgin Mills Road East
(The William Neal House)
Town of Richmond Hill
Town File No.: D12-07172

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill intends to designate the above-noted property, including land and building, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV, section 29, of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The subject property at 41 Elgin Mills Road contains direct architectural and associative/historical value as the home of William Neal, the first mayor of the Town of Richmond Hill and a businessman who was closely associated with the rising significance of the automobile within Richmond Hill.

William Neal served in World War I, and returned to Richmond Hill after being wounded at the Battle of Petit Vimy. He served on Richmond Hill Council in the 1940's and later as Reeve of the Village of Richmond Hill from 1944 to 1947 and again in 1951. He became the first mayor of the Town of Richmond Hill in 1957 and served again in 1963. When he was inducted as mayor, Richmond Hill had a population of less than 8,500 residents. During his tenure he oversaw the addition of 164 houses in the Beverly Acres subdivision, developed plans for a new town swimming pool, and was significantly involved with the founding of York Central Hospital.

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As a businessman, William opened one of the first Dodge dealerships in Canada in 1931, on the east side of Yonge Street, just south of Lorne Street. In 1934, he was appointed Richmond Hill's first and only motor vehicle licence issuer. The office was the first to open north of Steeles Avenue, in what was then a mostly rural area and continued to operate until its closure in 1997.

In the early 1970's William and his family relocated north of Richmond Hill to 41 Elgin Mills Road East where he subdivided the parcel into three smaller lots to contain his dealership, licencing office, and personal dwelling respectively.

The property contains a unique historic mixture of automotive and residential uses that link directly to William Neal. However, as uses cannot be designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, William Neal's residence is the primary physical attribute associated with the first Mayor of the Town of Richmond Hill.

Description of Heritage Attributes

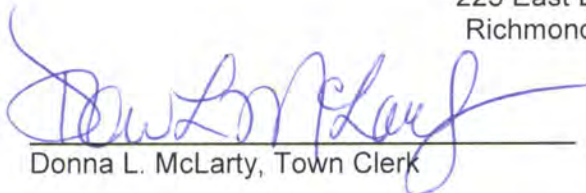
Key physical attributes that contribute to the heritage value of 41 Elgin Mills Road East (the William Neal House), include the following:

- The building scale, massing and form;
- Three-bay west (front) elevation with a central dormer window;
- The location and shape of the 2/2 windows and doors;
- Two-and-a-half storey American foursquare style house with broad-eaved hip roof covered in asphalt shingles;
- The enclosed sunroom located on the west (front) façade that supports a hip roof with columns;
- The rear projecting kitchen and garage attached to the east (rear) of the building;
- The common Bond brick with headers every sixth course; and
- The coursed rough stone base.

Notice of Objection

Any person who objects to the proposed designation shall, within 30 days after the publication of this notice, serve on the Town Clerk of the Town of Richmond Hill, a Notice of Objection setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. The last day to appeal the proposed designation is **November 11, 2013**. Service may be made by delivery personally to the Town Clerk or by Regular Mail at the following address:

Donna L. McLarty, Town Clerk
The Town of Richmond Hill
225 East Beaver Creek Road
Richmond Hill ON L4B 3P4



Donna L. McLarty, Town Clerk

- c. Gloria T. Collier, Deputy Clerk
- c. Antonio Dimilta, Assistant Town Solicitor
- c. Joanne Leung, Manager of Urban Design
- c. Matthew Sommerville, Urban Design/Heritage Planner
- c. Ehsan Ajilian & Ramtin Sotoadeh, Arash Development Limited, 282 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto ON M4P 1L4
- c. Murray Evans, Evans Planning Limited, 8481 Keele Street, Unit 12, Vaughan ON L4K 1Z7