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Corporate Services
Michael De Rond
Town Clerk

905-727-3123 ext.4771
mderond@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way,
Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

November 8th, 2018

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

Via Registered Mail

NOV 19 2018

RECEIVED

Ms. Erin Semande
Ontario Heritage Trust
Heritage Programs and Operation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

Dear Ms. Semande,

RE: Notice of Intention to Designate a Property to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

**136 Wellington Street East
The Railroad Hotel
Lots 1, 2 and 3 1st Range South of Centre Street East of Railroad on Plan
107, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN 03641-
0819 (LT)**

Please find attached a Notice of Intention to Designate, which includes a statement explaining the Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and a description of the heritage attributes of the above-noted property.

Pursuant to Section 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, this Notice will be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality (The Auroran) on November 15th, 2018.

Yours sincerely,

Michael De Rond
Town Clerk

Attach.

c. Marco Ramunno, Planning and Development Services

**NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO DESIGNATE A BUILDING OF
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora intends to designate the following property as a property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended. A brief statement of reasons is included.

136 Wellington Street East
The Railroad Hotel
Lots 1, 2 and 3, 1st Range South of Centre Street East of Railroad on
Plan 107, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN
03641-0819 (LT)

Description of Property

The property known municipally as 136 Wellington Street East contains a two-storey commercial building located at the historically significant Wellington Street Railroad intersection.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Constructed circa 1855, the Railroad Hotel is a two-storey, mid-19th century building inspired by Georgian and Gothic Revival influences. The building features a distinctive keyhole window, gable roof, and historic window and door openings. It is one of the oldest buildings in Aurora and the last remaining railroad hotel in Town.

The hotel was a prominent community landmark and gathering place for both local Aurorans and travellers who rode on the *Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Union Railroad* - the province's earliest fare-paying steam train journey. In response to the railway's opening and anticipation of population growth, John Mosley and Richard Machell subdivided their land holdings on the property, and in 1854 "Machell's Corners" was renamed "Aurora", after the Grecian goddess of dawn, to enthusiastically mark the turning point in direction – symbolically and actually – of the community. The Railroad Hotel represents the growth of commercial life as part of this new era for the Town.

Prominent Aurora and area business people including John Kersopp and the Button family from Markham also owned the property for periods of time. Since the present railway station (built c.1900) is not the original terminal, the hotel stands as the last vestige from the mid-19th century for the area surrounding the railway crossing.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Important to the preservation of the property are the original key attributes that express its value, which include:

Exterior Elements

- Roundel/keyhole window
- North and south gables
- Historic window and door openings

**DETAILED REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION CAN BE OBTAINED
BY CONTACTING THE UNDERSIGNED.**

Pursuant to Section 29(5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, any person may, before 4:30 p.m. on the **17th day of December 2018**, (within 30 days of the publication of this

notice) send by registered mail or deliver to the Town Clerk, Notice of Objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement setting out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Town of Aurora will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and a report.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available from the Town Clerk's Office upon request.

DATED at Aurora this November 15th, 2018

Michael De Rond, Town Clerk, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1