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November 24, 2023

Bronson Centre Inc.  
c/o Corey Mayville, President  
211 Bronson Ave  
Ottawa, ON  
K1R 6H5

**RECEIVED**  
2023/11/27  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Mr. Mayville,

**RE: Designation of the Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of the  
*Ontario Heritage Act***

This letter is to advise you that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of November 22, 2023, approved the following recommendation in respect of the above-noted item:

**That Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value attached as Document 5.**

A copy of the complete report in this matter, as well as the Disposition/Minutes of the City Council meeting of November 22, 2023, can be found on the City's website at [ottawa.ca/agendas](http://ottawa.ca/agendas).

Enclosed is the Notice of Intention to Designate, served according to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, to be published on [Ottawa.ca/HeritageNotices](http://Ottawa.ca/HeritageNotices). You will have 30 days from the publication date, until December 31, 2023, to file an objection to the designation.

Should you wish to object to the designation, you may do so by submitting an objection in writing, outlining the reasons for the objection and any other relevant information. The letter

Office of the City Clerk  
City of Ottawa  
110 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1  
[ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca)

Direct Line (613) 580-2424 Ext. 21933  
[david.white@ottawa.ca](mailto:david.white@ottawa.ca)

Bureau du greffier municipal  
Ville d'Ottawa  
110, ave. Laurier ouest  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1  
[ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca)

Ligne directe (613) 580-2424 poste 21933  
[david.white@ottawa.ca](mailto:david.white@ottawa.ca)

must be received by the Clerk of the City of Ottawa within 30 days after the publication of this notice.

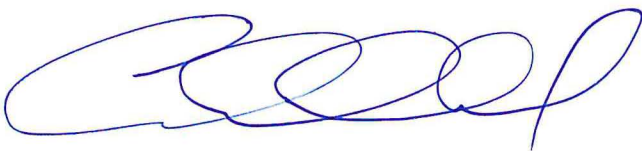
The letter can be sent by registered mail to the City Clerk at 110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 1J1, or can be delivered in person, by appointment, at the following coordinates:

David White, Interim City Clerk  
c/o Mélanie Blais, Acting Committee Coordinator  
110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1, mail code 01-71

To make an appointment, please contact Mélanie Blais, Acting Committee Coordinator at (613) 580-2424, ext. 27005, or at [melanie.blais@ottawa.ca](mailto:melanie.blais@ottawa.ca). When an objection has been received, City Council will consider the objection including all relevant information within 90 days after the end of the objection period. After consideration of the objection, Council may decide to withdraw the Notice of Intention to Designate or to pass a by-law designating the property under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Should Council pass a by-law to designate the property, there will be further correspondence from the City on how you may appeal this decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

Should you require further information, please contact MacKenzie Kimm, Heritage Planner, at (613) 580-2424 x15203 or by email at [mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca](mailto:mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. White', written in a cursive style.

Deputy Clerk for David White  
Interim City Clerk

c.c. Lesley Collins, City of Ottawa ([lesley.collins@ottawa.ca](mailto:lesley.collins@ottawa.ca))  
MacKenzie Kimm, City of Ottawa ([mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca](mailto:mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca))  
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust ([registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca))  
JP Melville, Hub Director ([jp@jpmelville.ca](mailto:jp@jpmelville.ca); [bci-hub@bronsoncentre.ca](mailto:bci-hub@bronsoncentre.ca))

Encl.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE THE BRONSON CENTRE, 211 BRONSON AVENUE AS A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST, PURSUANT TO SECTION 29 (3) OF THE *ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18**

**DATED AND PUBLISHED** at the City of Ottawa this 1st day of December 2023.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the City of Ottawa, on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 established its intention to designate The Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

The Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue is a three storey, flat roofed institutional building constructed between 1929 and 1962. It occupies the entire block fronting on Bronson Avenue between Nepean and Lisgar Streets in Ottawa's Centretown neighbourhood.

**STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

The Bronson Centre has design value as a representative example of an institutional building, constructed in phases between 1929 and 1962. The original Immaculata High School, constructed in 1929 at the corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenues is a representative example of the Collegiate Gothic style, a popular style for institutional buildings across North America from the early-to-mid-twentieth century. Features typical of the style include the flat roof, stone cladding and quoins, and central entranceway. The Bronson Centre has several additions, most notably the D.A. Kearns Memorial Wing, constructed to the east of the original building in 1950 and the large central addition, constructed along Bronson Avenue in 1962. Both additions are clad in stone and represent a compatible evolution and interpretation of the original Collegiate Gothic style building.

The Bronson Centre has associative value as the representative work of several significant Ottawa architects. The original 1929 school was designed by W.E. Noffke, arguably Ottawa's most significant architect of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1950 Dr. D.A. Kearns Memorial wing was designed by local architects Hazelgrove and Lithwick and the 1962 wing including the auditorium was designed by local architecture firm Balharrie, Helmer and Morin.

The Bronson Centre has historical value for its direct associations with the Grey Nuns, and Immaculata High School. The Grey Nuns purchased this property in 1928 and constructed a new school on the site in 1929, which was expanded over time and served as the Immaculata High School until 1994. The Grey Nuns are an important religious order in the history of Ottawa, first arriving in 1845 to provide nursing services under the direction of Mother Elisabeth Bruyère. The order has been involved in healthcare and education in Ottawa for almost 200 years. The building is also significant for its association with Immaculata High School which was an important component of

the Catholic school system in 20<sup>th</sup> century Ottawa and continues in its current location on Main Street. Since 1996 the building has housed the Bronson Centre, an important community hub for social services, arts and music in Ottawa.

The Bronson Centre has contextual value as a landmark on Bronson Avenue both for its size, spanning the entire block of Bronson Avenue between Nepean and Lisgar Streets and for its function as both a school and now a community hub. As a Catholic school for almost 70 years, the building is also visually and historically linked to the development of significant institutions in this part of Centretown including St. Vincent's Hospital (1932), Erskine Presbyterian Church (1905), and MacPhail Baptist Church (1893).

## **DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES**

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of 211 Bronson Avenue include are outlined below.

Those physical attributes of the building that make it a cohesive complex, built in phases between 1929 and 1962 including its:

- Limestone cladding with ashlar details
- Three storey massing with flat roof
- Use of decorative stone details and stepped parapet walls
- Fenestration pattern including bands of windows
- Use of detailing to separate each wing, creating legibility between each phase of the building

### **1929 School Building (corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue)**

Those attributes of the original Immaculata High School building that embody the Collegiate Gothic style include:

- Three storey massing with flat roof and stepped parapets with decorative stone details
- Split-faced limestone cladding with ashlar details and stepped stone pilasters at the northwest and southwest corners
- Symmetrical front (west) elevation including:
  - Central arched entrance sidelites and transom window
  - Bands of windows to the north and south of the main entrance with stone lintels, sills and quoins
- Projecting arched entranceway with stepped parapet, flanked by stepped pilasters with dripstones on the south facade
- Asymmetrical south façade including the fenestration pattern with stone sills, lintels and quoins
- 1929 datestone at the southwest corner



### **1950 D.A. Kearns Memorial Wing (Lisgar Street)**

- Three storey massing with flat roof
- Limestone cladding with ashlar details
- Projecting arched entranceway with crenellated parapet, corner buttresses and stone details including carved nameplate "Dr. D.A. Kearns Memorial"
- Two storey vertically oriented window with limestone quoins
- Fenestration pattern including bands of windows with stone sills, lintels and quoins
- 1948 datestone at south east corner

### **1962 Wing (Bronson Avenue)**

- Three storey massing with flat roof and stepped parapet
- Limestone cladding with ashlar details
- Central entrance porch with recessed entrance and stepped parapet
- Fenestration pattern with pairs of windows arranged in squares, with stone quoins and continuous stone sills and lintels reflecting the bands of windows on the earlier sections of the building
- 1962 date stone south of the main entrance

Those attributes that express the contextual value of the Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue as a landmark in Centretown include:

- Its prominent siting, occupying the entire street frontage along Bronson Avenue from Nepean Street to Lisgar Street

The 1952 nurses' residence wing and all building interiors are excluded from the designation.

## **OBJECTIONS**

Please be advised that any person wishing to object to this designation may do so under the objection process set out in Section 29 (5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* by giving the Clerk of the City of Ottawa, within 30 days after the online publication of this notice, a notice of objection outlining the reasons for the objection and any other relevant information.

The notice of objection can be submitted via email to [CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca](mailto:CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca). The notice of objection can also be submitted via registered mail or be delivered in person, by appointment, at the following coordinates:

David White, Interim City Clerk

c/o Mélanie Blais, Committee Coordinator, Built Heritage Committee  
110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1, mail code 01-71

When an objection has been received, City Council will consider the objection including all relevant information, within 90 days after the end of the objection period. After consideration of the objection, Council may decide to withdraw the Notice of Intention to Designate or to pass a by-law designating the property under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

For further information, and for a complete copy of the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and Attributes, please contact: MacKenzie Kimm, [mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca](mailto:mackenzie.kimm@ottawa.ca)  
613-580-2424 x 15203.