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Report No. ACS2025-PDB-RHU-0007

May 14, 2025

Peace Tower Church Inc.  
343 Bronson Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1R 6J2

**RECEIVED**  
2025/05/15  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Property Owner,

**Re: Notice of passage of By-law 2025-174 to designate 343 Bronson Avenue, the Erskine Presbyterian Church, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act***

Ottawa City Council, at its meeting held on April 30, 2025 passed the following by-law under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*:

2025-174     A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate 343 Bronson Avenue to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

Please find enclosed a copy of the by-law, including the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and list of attributes.

Notice of the passage of By-law 2025-174 will be published online at [Ottawa.ca/heritagenotices](https://ottawa.ca/heritagenotices) on May 14, 2025, pursuant to By-law 2002-522 as amended.

#### APPEAL TO ONTARIO LAND TRIBUNAL

Pursuant to subsection 29 (11) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, any person who objects to the by-law may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal with respect to the by-law, by filing with the Clerk of the City of Ottawa, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection. All appeals must also be accompanied by any fees charged by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

A notice of appeal can be filed either via the **Ontario Land Tribunal e-file service** (first-time users will need to register for a My Ontario Account) at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/e-file-service> by selecting [City of Ottawa] as the Approval Authority or **mailed to the City at 110 Laurier Avenue West, Mail Code 01-14, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 1J1**. Alternatively, packages can be submitted at the Client Service Centre located at City Hall - 110 Laurier Ave West.

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

Direct Line (613) 580-2424 Ext. 28136  
[caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca](mailto:caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca)

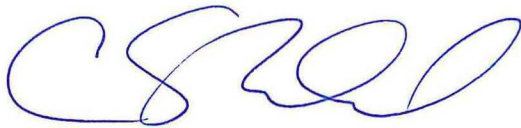
Bureau du greffier municipal  
Ville d'Ottawa  
110, ave. Laurier ouest  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1  
[ottawa.ca](https://ottawa.ca)

Ligne directe (613) 580-2424 poste 28136  
[caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca](mailto:caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca)

If no notices of appeal are received, By-law 2024-174 comes into force on June 16, 2025, and a copy of the by-law will be registered against the title of the property. A copy of the registered by-law will also be served on the Ontario Heritage Trust.

Should you require further information, please contact Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, directly at [greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca) or 613-580-2424 x 23665.

Regards,



Caitlin Salter MacDonald  
City Clerk

cc: Lauren Luchenski, Built Heritage Research Coordinator, City of Ottawa (by email to [lauren.luchenski@ottawa.ca](mailto:lauren.luchenski@ottawa.ca))  
Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, City of Ottawa (by email to [greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca))  
Peace Tower Church (by email to [info@peacetowerchurch.ca](mailto:info@peacetowerchurch.ca))  
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust (by email to [registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca))

Encl.

BY-LAW NO. 2025 - 174

A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate 343 Bronson Avenue, to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

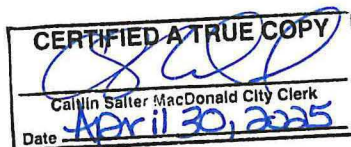
AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Ottawa has caused notice of intention to designate to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known municipally as 343 Bronson Avenue (more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto), and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, the said notice being published online on Ottawa.ca on March 12, 2025, as permitted by by-law 2002-522 as amended;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the said proposed designation was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the statement of cultural heritage value or interest and description of heritage attributes reasons for designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;

THEREFORE the Council of the City of Ottawa, enacts as follows:

1. The real property known municipally as 343 Bronson Avenue, and more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. The Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes are set out as Schedule "B" hereto.
3. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry office.
4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the property described in Schedule "A", and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, and to cause notice of this By-law to be published online on Ottawa.ca as permitted by by-law 2002-522 as amended.
5. The schedules attached hereto and marked Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" form part of this By-law, and all notations, references and other information contained therein shall be as much a part of this By-law as if all the matters and information set forth by the said Schedules were all fully described herein.



ENACTED AND PASSED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.



CITY CLERK



MAYOR

## SCHEDULE "A"

PIN:

04121-0108 (LT)

Legal Description:

LTS T, U, V & PART OF LOT W, PL 30671 ; PT LT 1, PL 30671 , S/S MACLAREN ST ;  
BEING PTS 1, 3 & 5, 5R13351, S/T & T/W N521467, S/T & T/W NS232091 ;  
OTTAWA/NEPEAN



## SCHEDULE "B"

### **Description of Property**

The Erskine Presbyterian Church at 343 Bronson Avenue, currently known as the Peace Tower Church, is a stone church constructed in phases between 1901 and 1906 located on the southeast corner at the intersection of MacLaren Street and Bronson Avenue

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The Erskine Presbyterian Church has historical value through its direct association with the growth of Ottawa's early Presbyterian community.

The Erskine Presbyterian congregation originated in 1870 and constructed their first church in Rochesterville, a former village located in what is now Centretown West, in 1877. Originally known as the Presbyterian Church of Rochesterville, it was the first Presbyterian Church in the west end of Ottawa. Due to the early expansion of Rochesterville and LeBreton Flats, the congregation experienced rapid growth and, in 1887, opened a larger church at Elm and Preston Streets. This church was destroyed by "The Great Fire" in 1900. As a result, in 1900, the Erskine Presbyterian Church purchased the lot at Bronson Avenue and MacLaren Street and opened the original church building in 1901. The site was selected for its proximity to the Somerset streetcar, as well as its location in a growing part of Ottawa. The Erskine Presbyterian Church existed in this building until 2007, when they closed, and the congregation amalgamated with the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Erskine Presbyterian Church is a representative example of a Gothic Revival church in Ottawa. The rusticated limestone church was constructed in phases between 1901 and 1906. The church features traditional elements of the Gothic Revival style including pointed arched openings, buttresses, prominent towers, steep gables, and a tall spire. The church displays a high degree of craftsmanship through its decorative stone details, rusticated stone cladding, and the use of coloured, leaded, and stained glass. The church was designed by John Pritchard MacLaren, one of Ottawa's most prominent architects from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, best known for designing several Gothic Revival churches in Ottawa and eastern Ontario.

The Erskine Presbyterian Church has contextual value because it is important in defining and maintaining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue, both of which experienced early waves of development in the late 19th and 20th centuries. As an important early religious institution in the neighbourhood, the church maintains and defines the historic character of west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue. As a place of worship, the Erskine Presbyterian Church is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown. With prominent frontage on Bronson Avenue and a tall spire visible from side streets and

parks throughout the surrounding neighbourhood, the church is a landmark on Bronson Avenue and in the west area of Centretown.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of the Erskine Presbyterian Church as a representative example of a church designed in the Gothic Revival style include:

- Rusticated stone cladding
- Rusticated stone foundation
- Irregular footprint consisting of rectangular 1901 section and cruciform 1906 addition
- Asymmetrical façades with front gable bays
- Stone buttresses
- Pointed arched and lancet window openings
- Decorative stone elements including sills, voussoirs, hood moulds, stone surrounds, label stops, trefoils, and stringcourses
- Large pointed arched stained glass windows on west and north facades with lancet and rose tracery
- Ground level entrances with pointed arched door openings and decorative features including
  - Stone hood moulds
  - Stone drip edges
  - Stone label stops
  - Transoms with tracery and stained glass
- Tower on northwest corner including
  - Metal clad spire with turrets, finials, and gable dormers
  - Regularly spaced and stepped pointed arched and rectangular window openings



- Stone buttresses
- 1901 date stone on west façade

BY-LAW NO. 2025 - 174

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A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate  
343 Bronson Avenue, to be of cultural  
heritage value or interest.

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Enacted by City Council at its meeting of  
April 30, 2025.

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LEGAL SERVICES  
HNM/

COUNCIL AUTHORITY:  
City Council February 26, 2025  
Agenda Item 15.1.1  
(Built Heritage Committee Report No. 21)