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File No. ACS2025-PDB-RHU-0006

June 11, 2025

The Council of Trustees of the Ottawa Muslim Association  
251 Northwestern Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1Y 0M1

**RECEIVED**  
2025/06/11  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: Designation of 251 Northwestern Avenue, Ottawa Mosque under Part IV of the  
*Ontario Heritage Act***

This letter is to advise you that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of May 28, 2025, approved the following recommendation in respect of the above-noted item:

**That Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate 251 Northwestern Avenue, Ottawa Mosque under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value.**

A copy of the complete report in this matter, as well as the minutes of the City Council meeting of May 28, 2025, 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 online at [Ottawa.ca/heritagenotices](http://Ottawa.ca/heritagenotices) on June 11, 2025. You will have 30 days from the publication date, until July 11, 2025, to file an objection to the designation. Should you wish to object to the designation, you may do so by submitting a notice of objection in writing, outlining the reasons for the objection and any other relevant information. The notice must be received by the Clerk of the City of Ottawa within 30 days after the online publication of this notice.

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. 28136  
[caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca](mailto:caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca)

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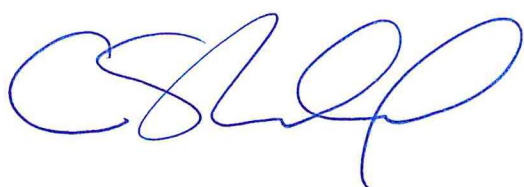
The notice of objection can be submitted via email to [CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca](mailto:CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca), or via registered mail or in-person delivery, by appointment, at the following coordinates:

Caitlin Salter MacDonald, City Clerk  
c/o Andrew El-Azzi, Committee Coordinator  
110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1, mail code 01-71

To make an appointment, please contact Andrew El-Azzi, Committee Coordinator at 613-580-2424, ext. 21934, or at [Andrew.El-Azzi2@ottawa.ca](mailto:Andrew.El-Azzi2@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 Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner at (613) 580-2424, 73665 or by email at [Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca).

Regards,



Caitlin Salter MacDonald  
City Clerk

c.c. Mohamed Ghadban ([mgha.6015@gmail.com](mailto:mgha.6015@gmail.com))  
Kirsty Walker, Built Heritage Research Coordinator, City of Ottawa  
([Kirsty.Walker@ottawa.ca](mailto:Kirsty.Walker@ottawa.ca))  
Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, City of Ottawa ([Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca))  
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust ([registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca))

Encl.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE 251 NORTHWESTERN AVENUE, OTTAWA MOSQUE 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 11th day of June, 2025

**TAKE NOTICE** that the City of Ottawa, on May 28, 2025 established its intention to designate 251 Northwestern Avenue, Ottawa Mosque under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

251 Northwestern Avenue is a two-storey, brown brick clad, irregular-shaped building with a dome and minaret with Modernist architectural influences. The building was constructed between 1973 and 1979 with an addition in 1996 and is located on the east side of Northwestern Avenue north of Scott Street in Champlain Park, Ottawa.

**STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

251 Northwestern Avenue has design value as the earliest mosque built in Ottawa and one of the earliest in Ontario, constructed between 1974 and 1979. Additionally, 251 Northwestern Avenue is a unique and rare expression of a Modernist place of worship as the only Modernist mosque in Ottawa. The building is characteristic of the Modernist style with its simple form and use of contemporary construction materials. Finally, 251 Northwestern Avenue has design value as a representative example of a contemporary mosque with traditional Islamic architecture features including its characteristic dome, minaret, and prayer hall with a square plan.

251 Northwestern Avenue has historical and associative value because it has direct associations with the Ottawa Muslim Association. The OMA is a grassroots organization that was founded in 1962 to serve the Muslim community in the National Capital Region. One of their early goals was to open a purpose-built mosque, which they accomplished with the construction of the Ottawa Mosque, at 251 Northwestern Avenue, finished in 1979. The OMA operates the Ottawa Mosque and its religious services, in addition to a library, educational programming, and social services.

251 Northwestern Avenue has associative value because it yields and has the potential to yield further information about Ottawa's early and contemporary Muslim community.

251 Northwestern Avenue has contextual value because it is functionally linked to its surroundings. The property was strategically selected as the location for the Ottawa Mosque because of its central location adjacent to the community's former meeting space, and its proximity to workplaces and public transit.

251 Northwestern Avenue has contextual value as a landmark due to its prominent location north of Scott Street and the high visibility of its iconic architectural features including the minaret and dome.

## DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the heritage value of 251 Northwestern Avenue as a unique expression of Modernist place of worship with traditional Islamic architectural features include:

- Two-storey irregular massing
- Brown brick cladding
- Large semi-circular and circular windows on multiple façades
  - Metal band across the circular window on the west façade with an Arabic inscription
- Copper covered dome with semi-circular windows below, topped with a finial
- Octagonal minaret with semi-circular and arched motifs, projecting balcony, copper covered cone, topped with a finial

Key attributes that demonstrate 251 Northwestern Avenue's contextual value are:

- Its location immediately north of the Transitway, lending to its visibility along Scott Street and its landmark status

The interior of the building and any future additions or outbuildings are excluded in this 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:

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For further information please contact: Greg MacPherson at [Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:Greg.MacPherson@ottawa.ca).