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**IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT  
R.S.O. 1990 CHAPTER 0.18 AND  
91 KING STREET EAST (ALBANY CLUB)  
CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

Albany Club of Toronto Limited  
91 King Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1G3

Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3

Take notice that Toronto City Council intends to designate the lands and buildings known municipally as 91 King Street East (Albany Club) under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

**Description**

The property at 91 King Street East (which includes the property with a convenience address of 93 King Street East) is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design, associative and contextual values. Located on the south side of King Street East between Leader Lane (west) and Church Street (east), the Albany Club (1930) is a four-storey institutional building that replaced two units of the five-part Victoria Row, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century commercial block.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

The property at 91 King Street East has design value as an excellent example of an institutional building designed in the Modern Classical style that was influenced by the gentlemen's clubs introduced in England and North America. Its stone-clad facade with classical detailing inspired by Italian Renaissance designs contributes to its architectural significance.

The Albany Club is an institution of significance in Toronto, which was founded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Conservative Party as a political club with links to both federal and provincial politics. Regarded as the last surviving political club in Canada, the Albany Club has retained an active and visible presence on King Street East for over a century.

The property at 91 King Street East contributes to an understanding of the development and significance of the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood as it evolved from its origins as "Old Town," survived the Great Fire of 1849 as the commercial and institutional heart of Toronto, and withstood the economic downturn of the area in the 20<sup>th</sup> century before it was revitalized in the 1960s. The Albany Club has contributed to the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood for over a century since it established its premises on King Street East in the oldest part of the city.

The updates to the Albany Club were designed by one of its members, the Toronto architect C.J. Gibson, who was known for his residential commissions in the city's upscale neighbourhoods. The Albany Club was one of a select number of institutional commissions accepted by Gibson, along with the Earls Court Library (which is recognized on the City of Toronto's heritage inventory).

Contextually, the property at 91 King Street East is significant in defining, maintaining and supporting the historic character of King Street in the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood, which is identified by the low scale and appearance of the surviving stores, banks, hotels, warehouses and institutional edifices. As an institutional building that was remodelled in 1930, the Albany Club is an integral component of a group of surviving commercial and institutional edifices that illustrates the evolution of King Street East as the Town of York's original "main street".

The Albany Club is also physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings on King Street East between Leader Lane and Church Street where it is placed near the east end of a collection of commercial and institutional buildings from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries that includes some of the oldest surviving structures in Toronto.

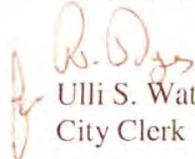
### **Heritage Attributes**

The heritage attributes of the property at 91 King Street East are:

- The four-storey institutional building, which relates its scale, setback and massing to the neighbouring buildings on the west and east
- The materials, with stone cladding and trim on the principal (north) facade
- The tripartite organization of the north facade with a base, shaft and cornice
- The base, where the main entrance is placed in the west half of the wall in an elaborate stone surround with paired wood doors and classical detailing
- The flat-headed window openings flanking the north entry and in the east half of the base
- The second and third floors, where the flat-headed window openings are separated by two-storey stone piers with classical detailing
- The fourth storey with an arcade of round-arched openings
- The roof detailing with a scrolled pediment, and the piers with decorative balls that mark the outer corners of the roof
- On the interior, the dining hall with the ceiling beams and brackets, wood paneling and minstrel's gallery

Notice of an objection to the proposed designations may be served on the City Clerk, Attention: Rosalind Dyers, Administrator, Toronto and East York Community Council, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, West, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2, within thirty days of November 7, 2012, which is December 7, 2012. The notice must set out the reason(s) for the objection, and all relevant facts.

Dated at Toronto this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.

  
Ulli S. Watkiss  
City Clerk