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City of Kenora

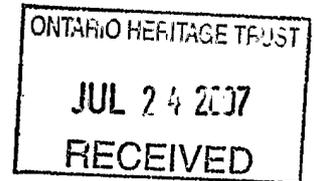
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Notice of Passing of a By-law to Designate Property under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act - Kenricia Hotel 204 Second St. S.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora adopted By-law No. 84-2007 being a by-law to designate the property being the Kenricia Hotel, on the corner of Main Street and Second Street South, legal description PLAN 3 BLK 2 PARTS LOT 6,7,9 and all lot 8, as a property of historical value or interest under Part IV of *The Ontario Heritage Act* (RSO 1990, Ch. O,18). The By-law to designate the property was adopted by Kenora City Council on Monday, July 16, 2007; and further

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora hereby withdraws the notice of intention to designate the property described above, as advertised on May 30, 2007.

July 23, 2007
Jeffrey C. Port, MCIP, RPP, City Planner



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KENORA

BY-LAW NUMBER 84-2007

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS PHOTOCOPY
CONFORMS TO THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
AND HAS NOT BEEN ALTERED IN ANY WAY.

July 19/07
Date
City Clerk

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A CERTAIN PROPERTY UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act states that the council of a municipality may, by by-law, designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest if,

(a) where criteria for determining whether property is of cultural heritage value or interest have been prescribed by regulation, the property meets the prescribed criteria; and

(b) the designation is made in accordance with the process set out in this section. 2005, c. 6, s. 17 (1)., and

WHEREAS the property at 204 Second Street South, known as the Kenricia Hotel, meets the criteria prescribed by the Province for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS Heritage Kenora considered a staff report recommending designation of this property at its meeting of March 29, 2007 and recommended the property be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act; and
2006; and

WHEREAS these actions of the City of Kenora Council fulfill the requirement of the Ontario Heritage Act that Council consult with the Board before giving notice of its intention to designate a property; and

WHEREAS the staff report advises that the building meets the criteria for historical designation under the Act; and

WHEREAS extensive community consultation has made very clear the significance of the building as a historical, cultural and architectural anchor, helping to define the historical character of the neighbourhood; and

WHEREAS a notice of intention to designate was issued on May 30, 2007, with the end of the appeal period being July 13, 2007, with no appeals having been received; and

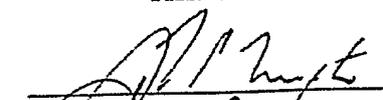
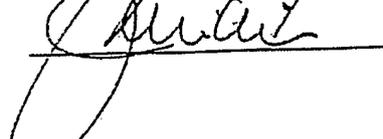
WHEREAS acting now to designate the property under the Ontario Heritage Act will protect the heritage of the downtown area and City of Kenora skyline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Kenora hereby enacts as follows:-

1. That the property located at 204 Second Street South, known as the Kenricia Hotel be and is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value or interest, as indicated in Schedule A to this By-law;
2. That this by-law shall take effect and come into force upon third and final reading of the by-law.

BY-LAW READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 16 DAY OF July, 2007
BY-LAW READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME THIS 16 DAY OF July, 2007

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KENORA


Leonard P. Compton, Mayor

Joanne L. McMillin, Clerk

SCHEDULE A TO BY-LAW 84-2007
Statement of Cultural Value or Interest – Kenricia Hotel

Design or Physical Value

The Kenricia Hotel is Northern Ontario's best example of a Beaux-Arts influenced hotel. The architectural features of the Kenricia represent the reaction to Victorian frivolity (high society and intellectualism) through a return to classical traditions. This era (1900 to 1930) is referred to as Edwardian Classicism.

The United States, in particular, embraced the classical tradition of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts toward the end of the nineteenth century. The 1876 American Centennial sparked an interest in American history which led to a surge in nationalism and interest in the colonial period. As a result, this inclined Americans towards classical architecture as reflected by a "back to the roots" movement whose focus was on rediscovering the original American ideals. This movement towards the Beaux-Arts style was further bolstered by the 1893 Chicago World Fair which celebrated the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. The fair, referred to as the Columbian Exposition, was themed to celebrate the classical world. The classically-inspired pavilions provided an optimistic vision that had a resounding impact on Americans. The same style was used in 1901 for the Buffalo Pan American Fair.

The Beaux-Arts classicism of the Kenricia Hotel is reflected through:

- The original monumental ionic portico (missing), deep enough to house a spacious upper balcony
- The Greek revival ionic columns (missing)
- The original balustrades (missing)
- The pronounced limestone quoins
- Symmetrical window hoods
- The cornice entablature with rectangular blocks (called modillions or muntins) lining the eaves
- Symmetrical fenestration
- The central projection of the tower (another hallmark of the symmetrical Edwardian style).

The Kenricia is also reflective of other architectural traditions including:

- The mansard or Second Empire architectural style that was born out of the optimistic and heady early days of Napoleon III's reign.
- The Tuscan tower (similar to a belvedere) that is closely associated with the Italianate tradition which counter-balanced the Gothic influence in Ontario.

Historical or Associative Value

Combining function and beauty, this impressive hotel represents the burgeoning tourism industry at the turn of the century.

The Kenricia's historical value also lies in its association with the Chicago architect Frank Newell. Newell was contracted to design a "modern, first-class hotel" befitting of the town's burgeoning tourist industry. He was considered to be "...one of the ablest architects in hotel construction on the continent..."

In 1903, there was a report in the local newspaper announcing that a group of local citizens, among them D.C. Cameron and George Drewry, had purchased the site of the former Hilliard House and Queen's Hotel (which burned in 1902) and that a company had been formed to build a first class hotel.

In 1907, Chicago architect Frank Newell was hired by the company to design a hotel befitting the burgeoning tourist town.

On May 27, 1907, the contract was awarded for the construction to Carter, Halls, Aldinger and Company of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The accepted price was \$225,000. Construction began immediately and the completion date was to be January 1, 1908.

The hotel was built on the main corner of downtown Kenora - Main and Second Streets South. The original blueprint showed the Main Street wing to be exactly twice the size of the eventual construction. Apparently financial difficulties which plagued the project over its three-year construction dictated some adjustments to the plan. In the end, only half the wing was built. While it was anticipated that the hotel would open in 1908, delays, mostly finance-related, prevented the completion of the hotel until 1910. The hotel officially opened for business on August 20, 1910.

The name of the hotel was changed from the Tourist Hotel to the Kenricia (a contraction of "Kenora" and "Patricia" district) Hotel in 1938.

The hotel went into receivership c1968, due to cost overruns in renovations.

The Kenricia hotel exudes the confidence and optimism of the North American elite prior to the First World War.

Contextual Value

A landmark building on Kenora's main street, the Kenricia hotel has simple lines and proportions, yet a pronounced presence. This is due to the fact that the Beaux-Arts style was extensively used for grand architectural statements - largely public buildings, banks and schools.

The Kenricia has the rare distinction of serving as a landmark, node and edge-defining building.

As a landmark, the Kenricia surpasses in height and presence other more traditional landmark buildings such as the Town Hall and local churches. Its visual prominence is confirmed by viewers arriving in Kenora by waterways or by road: it commands the attention of the viewer. (In fact, at the turn of the century - it literally must have represented the landmark of civilization to people arriving by boat).

Nodes are key places and strategic centre within a district – and the focus point of much activity. While the Kenricia has lost some of its vibrancy (in terms of social activity), it retains its presence as key place at Kenora's most important retail intersection.

The Kenricia also has the distinction of being an edge-defining building. The Kenricia's linkage to the waterfront represents the strongest link between the main street (composed of the retail economy) and the lake (as represented by the resource-based economy e.g. fisheries, logging that has defined Kenora). As such, the Kenricia represents the strongest visual linkage between Kenora's downtown and its waterfront.