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May 1, 2020

Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council  
City of Hamilton

By email: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I write on behalf of New Vision United Church to communicate to you our desire that you designate 24 Main St. W under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

New Vision is the successor congregation to the Centenary one that opened 24 Main W this month, in 1868.

This month marks 152 years of the continuous presence of people of faith of the United Church of Canada tradition congregating, teaching and advocating for, and living social justice from the corner of Main W and MacNab S.

Unsurprisingly, the building at this present urgent moment is being used by CAREmongering Hamilton as its supply depot for deliveries to people in search of food and other items. Last week New Vision opened a Resting and Hygiene Centre for Homeless People and People Living Rough in another part of the building at the invitation of the City's Emergency Operations Centre.

The heritage of this building matters to us. We chose one of the best heritage architect firms in Hamilton, McCallum Sather, because of the firm's heritage expertise, to design the modifications to the building that will enable us to make it a year-round 1000 seat performance and event venue. We spent \$70,000 ourselves to bring the building into fire code compliance without negatively impacting even one of the architectural features under regulation by the current Fire Code.

We look forward to the City's participation and partnership in celebrating and advancing the architectural and cultural significance of 24 Main W. We look with particular pleasure to working with Councilor Farr, and the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee, whom we value as key stakeholders at this time in the life and work of those who will occupy 24 Main W in the years, decades, and centuries ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Sloan  
Minister