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Pilon, Janet

Subject: Heritage Designation of the Stoney Creek Powerhouse

From: Greg Armstrong
Sent: February 27, 2025 12:03 AM
To: <mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca>
Cc: Francis, Matt <<mailto:Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>>; Kathy Wakeman
Subject: Heritage Designation of the Stoney Creek Powerhouse

I support the Heritage Designation of the Powerhouse.

My paternal grandparents arrived in the downtown Stoney Creek area in 1937. I arrived 1949. Our family has remained ever since. The HG&B electric railway, powered by the turbines at the Powerhouse, ran through downtown along King Street, to Grimsby, continuing to Beamsville. The waiting room was in the Institute building, 36 King St. E. Subsequently, the premises later known as the Powerhouse, became the storage facility for hydro. It was left idle for many years. It is located on Jones St., named for an historic area surveyor and planner, Augustus Jones.

One of the fundamentals of respecting history, is the concept of repurposing. The Powerhouse personifies that principle as it was repurposed from a storage shed into the extraordinary facility that it has become. It truly is part of the fabric, historic and otherwise, of our diminishing downtown Stoney Creek area. The City of Hamilton has shown its understanding and recognition of that principle by investing in the park area, complete with a fountain, and tiered landscaping, immediately in front of the Powerhouse. I submit that a heritage designation is consistent with that investment. The Powerhouse architecture, design, and location is unique, and well known well beyond Stoney Creek. I have attended the Powerhouse on many occasions, from life celebrations to celebrations of life. I have known individuals who have requested that their own celebration of life, take place at the Powerhouse. Clearly, in my view, that merits a heritage designation of and in itself.

My thanks for reviewing the above.

Greg Armstrong
President
Stoney Creek Historical Society