

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

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Valley of Hamilton

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October 7, 2013

The Mayor and Members of City Council
City of Hamilton
71 Main St. W.
Hamilton, ON
L8P 4Y5

Your Worship and Members of City Council,

Re: Moore Sovereign Consistory – Scottish Rite and Strathcona Secondary Plan

As you are aware, the Scottish Rite has been established at the south-west corner of the intersection of King St. W. and Queen St. S. since 1920. We are proud of our heritage and we strongly support the preservation of key Architectural and Historic landmarks throughout the Strathcona neighbourhood that define its character and make the neighbourhood so unique to live in.

We wish to advise Council that the entire block bounded by King St. W., Queen St. S., George St., and Ray St. is owned by three Masonic Organizations. The east side of the block is owned by Towers Inc. a holding company governed by the three constituent bodies of the Scottish Rite. The three properties on the north-east corner of Ray and George Streets consisting of 148, 152 and 154 George Street are owned by Moore Sovereign Consistory, one of the constituent bodies of the Scottish Rite. The property at the corner the corner of King St. W. and Ray St. is owned by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. This is another Masonic body but the property is not controlled by the Scottish Rite or any of its constituent bodies.

We note that whereas the majority of the block has been designated for Mixed-Use Medium Density Use, the three properties owned by Moore Sovereign Consistory fronting on George Street are designated for Low Density Residential 3. It is our opinion that if these properties are designated as Low Density Residential 3, we would have a difficult time maintaining and enhancing the character of the neighbourhood. Also, we would not be able to share access

points along common roads and maintain adequate internal traffic, circulation, parking, loading and maneuvering facilities for the Scottish Rite.

It is our opinion that by having a uniform designation of **Mixed Use Medium Density Use** for the entire block, we would have flexibility in using the land to enhance the function of the Scottish Rite and its associated activities.

We request you to amend the Strathcona Secondary Plan to reflect our comments above.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. We would be pleased to meet with you and your staff to discuss this further if required.

Yours sincerely,

George F. Benton



The Trustees of Moore Sovereign Consistory
George F. Benton, Peter D. Ewen, Kenneth C. Adamson

KCA:self