

February 1, 2018

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Centre Block, Suite 433C
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister McKenna;

The City of Peterborough is writing to express its support of the recommendations of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development outlined in their report of December 2017, *Preserving Canada's Heritage: The Foundation of Tomorrow*.

The City believes that the recommendations put forward in the report form the basis for a broader federal role in heritage preservation with clear benefits to communities across the country. These recommendations should be integrated into federal policy making, including federal budget measures for 2018, as part of wider efforts to ensure the protection of Canada's historic places.

In particular, the City would like to show support for recommendation eleven, a proposed tax credit for restoration and preservation work on buildings listed in the Canadian Register of Historic Places. As demonstrated through successes in other jurisdictions, a tax credit program has the potential to not only revitalize historic buildings and communities, but can also have significant economic impact through the stimulation of private investment in existing building stock and job-creation in both the heritage and non-heritage sectors. There is clear evidence to link heritage investment with economic growth as well as to other important considerations such as decreased negative environmental impact in the construction industry and the preservation of local history.

Implementation of these initiatives will help conserve both federally- and privately-owned heritage properties across Canada through the creation of regulatory and financial supports for historic sites and their continued upkeep and development.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,