



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC)

FROM: Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2010

SUBJECT: Report PACAC10-005
Designation of City Hall and Carnegie Annex

PURPOSE

A report to recommend that PACAC proceed to recommend designation of City Hall and the Carnegie Annex to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the PACAC approve the recommendation outlined in Report PACAC10-005, dated February 9, 2010, of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

That the PACAC recommend designation of City Hall and the Carnegie Annex to Council.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

BACKGROUND

City Hall

The Peterborough City Hall was constructed in 1951 to the designs of Marani and Morris. The building has been evaluated and scored 92 making it a Category 'A' building and worthy of designation.

The building is a significant contributing element to the precinct of monumental institutional buildings the surround Confederation Square. It has been in use by the City since its construction. Through time it has housed courts, the Justice of the Peace, the school board and the east wing was the police station until a new facility was constructed across the street. City Hall is a late interpretation of the principles of the City Beautiful movement, which grew out of the European Beaux Arts style and borrowed from it a sense of order, harmony and dignity of design. The ground floor foyer at City Hall is adorned with a terrazzo mosaic floor map of Peterborough County, believed to be the only one of its kind in Canada.

The Carnegie Annex

Built in 1910, the former Carnegie Library Building is one of only 125 Carnegie Libraries in Canada. The building has been evaluated and scored 92 making it a Category 'A' building and worthy of designation.

Constructed using funds from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, the library was built during a progressive era in the City's history when it thrived as an industrial powerhouse in the first decades of the 20th century. Additional funding was donated to the City from the estate of Charlotte Nicholls, one of early Peterborough's most prominent benefactresses. The building represents a growing understanding of the value of public educational institutions, and has value as a monument to public education and the increasing importance of literacy. The building also housed the Victoria Museum collection, which was the first museum collection in Peterborough.

Local architect and City engineer, John E. Belcher, designed the structure in the Beaux Arts style, which is an eclectic mix of Renaissance and Classical features. Contextually the Carnegie building is a significant contributor to the Confederation Square civic precinct and faces PCVS, another Beaux Arts building of the same era, across the square.

Submitted by,

Erik Hanson
Heritage Resources Coordinator

Attachments:

Appendix A: City Hall Designation Brief

Appendix B: Carnegie Annex Designation Brief