



City of  
**Peterborough**

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

**From:** Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator

**Meeting Date:** June 5, 2014

**Subject:** Report PACAC14-023  
PCVS Heritage Designation

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## **Purpose**

A report to recommend that the PACAC recommend to Council that Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational Institute (PCVS) be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

## **Recommendation**

That the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report PACAC14-023, dated June 5, 2014 of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

That the Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational Institute (PCVS), at 201 McDonnell Street, be recommended to Council for designation pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

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

## Background

PCVS is recommended for designation pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act* and in accordance with Ontario Regulation 10/06 as a property of cultural heritage value or interest. PCVS has been classified as a category 'A' property using PACAC's evaluation tool. Category 'A' properties are defined as being individually outstanding and have the broadest heritage significance in the City by virtue of architectural, historical, and environmental criteria along with overall integrity of design and construction. Category 'A' properties generally hold provincial and/or national significance.

The Designation Sub-Committee (DSC), an ad-hoc committee of the PACAC met on May 27, 2014 to review the designation brief for PCVS drafted by staff. After a brief discussion the DSC passed a motion that the Designation Sub-Committee recommend to PACAC the designation of PCVS.

## Significance

PCVS is located on the south side of McDonnell Street mid-block between George and Aylmer Streets. The school is a prominent and integral part of an assembly of monumental late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century civic buildings which frame the park.

PCVS is architecturally significant as an expression of collegiate architecture rendered at a time of rapid growth and economic optimism for the City of Peterborough. The building's design represents a transition from the formidable presence of the Romanesque Revival style in the late Victorian era to a lighter, more refined expression of progress presented by the Beaux Arts or Classical Revival style which came to characterize Edwardian design in Canada.

The current building complex is oldest secondary school in Peterborough and traces its roots to the Peterborough Government School opened by Reverend Samuel Armour in 1826. The cornerstone for PCI was laid on July 31, 1907 and the school, built to the design of John Belcher, was completed in time for classes to begin in September of 1908. In 1927 a vocational school wing was added and PCI became Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational Institute (PCVS). In 1966 a gymnasium by Craig, Zeidler and Strong was added to the south side of the original 1907 school. In the course of its history the school has graduated nationally and internationally renowned artists, business leaders and politicians including Serena Ryder, Evelyn Hart, Sean Cullen, Jim Balsillie and Lester B. Pearson.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A- PCVS Designation Brief