



Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee

10 May 2019

The Council of the City of Peterborough
City of Peterborough
500 George Street North
Peterborough, ON K9H 3R9

Re: Ford Government Proposal, Bill 108, More Homes, More Choice Act

Your Worship and Members of City Council,

As Chair of PACAC, a committee appointed by Council to advise on matters pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, I felt obliged to send this letter when I became aware of proposed changes to the OHA. Bill 108, More Homes, More Choice Act, will, I believe, have a negative impact on the way communities in Ontario protect properties of cultural heritage value or interest.

While being positioned as a bill to reduce the impediments to the creation of new housing in the province, the bill actually acts to remove the process of protecting community heritage from local governing councils. For instance:

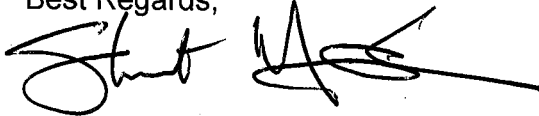
Councils will now be subject to "principles prescribed by regulation" when making decisions relating to designated heritage properties.

Municipalities will now be subject to very tight timelines when deciding whether to designate a property. Some timelines will be triggered by planning applications and will leave barely enough time for a Council to consult with its heritage committee, direct staff to research and write a brief and submit a report back to Council for a decision.

The review of objections by property owners to the Conservation Review Board, whose decision was not binding on Council is being abolished in favour of requirements that all objections under the Act be heard by the LAPT which is reverting to the provincially administered OMB structure.

The provincial government has set June 1st as the deadline for comments on the proposed changes. I would urge Council to consider what, if any, comments it should provide to the province on the proposed changes and to perhaps engage staff to study the matter further so a comprehensive submission could be formulated.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stewart Hamilton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stewart Hamilton
PACAC Committee Chair

cc: Ms. Sandra Clancy, CAO City of Peterborough
cc: Mr. Henry Clarke, City Councillor (PACAC Council Representative)
cc: PACAC File