

BISHOP HELLMUTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

A member of the Urban League of London

September 24, 2011

Heather Lysynski, Secretary Built and Natural Environment Committee, London City Council City of London, ON N6B 1Z2

RE: REQUEST FOR DEMOLITION OF HOUSE AT 764 WATERLOO STREET

Chair and Members of the Built and Natural Environment Committee:

Members of the Bishop Hellmuth Community Association met Tuesday, September 20, 2011, to discuss the application by Fahri Holdings Inc. for the demolition of the house at 764 Waterloo Street. It was recognized that the demolition would weaken the southeast corner of our Heritage Conservation District and that it could set a precedent for further demolitions near that corner and elsewhere in the District. Concerns were also raised about the character of any development that might occur on the vacant site directly south of the subject property, where an Esso station was formerly located, with residents stressing the dangers to students at St. George's Public School of more traffic on that site and of the need for development in a style sympathetic to the historical character of the HCD.

As a result, those present at the meeting voted to oppose the demolition of the house until a site plan is in place for further development on the property at 764 Waterloo Street and on the lots immediately to the south.

Two other recommendations became implicit during the course of the meeting:

That the house and grounds of the house at 764 Waterloo St. be better maintained and more consistently secured than during the eight months Fahri Holdings Inc. has owned the property and during the tenure of Imperial Oil before that.

That the residents in the Bishop Hellmuth HCD be consulted in relation to further decisions involving the properties within the District extending from the northeast corner of Waterloo and Oxford Streets.

In this instance, LACH made its decision before the neighbourhood association had a chance to become familiar with the issues, and the neighbourhood scrambled to organize a response prior to this BNEC meeting.

Yours truly,

Mari Parks,

Chair, Bishop Hellmuth Community Association