From: Wendy Dickinson

Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 9:26 AM

To: Polhill, Bud; Henderson, Dale; Bryant, Judy; White, Sandy; Swan, Joseph; Lysynski, Heather

Cc: 'Wes Kinghorn'

Subject: Application to Demolish 199 Queen's Ave

Importance: High



Re: Application to Demolish 199 Queen's Ave

To the Members of Planning and Environment Committee,

The Woodfield Community Association would like to express our dismay with the recent decision of LACH to approve a demolition permit for 199 Queen's Ave, and to ask Planning Committee to reverse that decision.

The Woodfield Community Association objects to the demolition of any viable heritage building in the heritage districts, unless that building is in danger of collapse, or the plan for its replacement has strong, local value and support. This building is stable and not a danger, nor is there any guarantees that a new building of strong value to the community will replace it. It seems that the building is being removed at this time to make way for parking, and potential longer term development. That rationale is not sufficient to merit the demolition of a heritage structure in the city's core.

Woodfield is widely recognised as a jewel of Victorian Architectural streetscapes in Canada. *We were voted people's choice over 90 other nominees to become the 'Greatest Place in Canada'*. In the 2011 *Michelin Guide to Ontario*, in London's 'Orient yourself' section, only 3 London places are mentioned: The John Labatt Centre, Springbank Park, and Woodfield, called "a 19C residential district in the old town, (with) Victorian houses, many built in a characteristic butter-yellow brick."

Please make London's built heritage a priority -- do not approve this demolition permit.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Dickinson Planning Chair The Woodfield Community Association

www.historicwoodfield.com

<u>About us:</u>

If you live in the area of London, Ontario bounded by Richmond St, Adelaide St, Queens Ave, and the CPR tracks (that cross Pall Mall), then you live in Woodfield!

The Woodfield Community Association works to maintain and improve the high quality of core area residential living to be found in Woodfield. Our mandate includes maintaining the residential character of the community, preserving heritage resources, protecting and expanding our heritage tree canopy, encouraging neighbours to shop and play where we live, and promoting social events that bring the community together.

To join the Woodfield Community Association (\$5 for 4 years, or \$50 for a lifetime membership and free copy of our book on the history of Woodfield) please drop me a line, or give me a call. We would love to meet you.