



October 28, 2011

Community & Neighbourhoods Committee
The Corporation of the City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON N6A 4L9
Fax: 519-661-4892

Attention: Betty Mercier, Committee Secretary

Dear Sirs/Madams:

Re: 697 – 701 Hale Street, London

Pursuant to discussions with Councillor Stephen Orser and By-Law Enforcement Manager Orest Katolyk, the Argyle Community Association would like to request a Staff Report with respect to the condition and status of the property known as 697-701 Hale Street, London (southwest corner of Dundas & Hale Streets).

The Argyle Community Association (the "ACA") represents the interests of the residents in the Argyle area, which catchment area stretches from the Thames River to the south, Highbury Avenue to the West, CP train tracks to the north, and Crumlin Road to the East. Our mission is to promote the well-being of the community, and to protect and improve the quality of life in the community and in the City of London.

The ACA has serious concerns with respect to the health, safety and overall appearance of the building at 697-701 Hale Street. In particular, we are concerned that the property is in breach of City of London Property Standards By-law CP-16, the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, and the Ontario Fire Code. Our specific concerns include but are not limited to:

- a) Exterior siding is not being maintained
- b) Graffiti has not been removed from the building
- c) The building has become a haven for pests
- d) Weeds have been allowed to grow uncontrolled on the property
- e) The building is a fire hazard
- f) The general appearance and condition of the building is not in keeping with the standards of a well-maintained property.

We have attached recent photos of the property showing the deplorable state of disrepair that the building is currently in. We feel that this building greatly detracts from the quality of life of the residents in the Argyle area, and is not consistent with London's image as a dynamic and vibrant community. Vacant buildings like this do not encourage investment in the area, and the adjacent property values have suffered because of the condition of this building. This building has become an eye-sore and a danger within our community, and we request immediate action on the part of your Committee.

The ACA is available to assist throughout this process, and look forward to working closely with the Committee, Council, and administration to develop a strategy for the satisfactory resolution of this problem. Vice-Chair Kim Parker will be acting as the ACA representative with respect to this matter. She can be reached by phone at (519) 857-2707 or by email at kparker@astral.com.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Ali Haidar, Chair
Argyle Community Association

Kim Parker, Vice-Chair
Argyle Community Association

c.c. via email

- Mayor Joe Fontana
- Bud Polhill, Councillor Ward 1
- Bill Armstrong, Councillor Ward 2
- Joe Swan, Councillor Ward 3
- Stephen Orser, Councillor Ward 4
- Orest Katolyk, By-law Enforcement Manager
- Nancy McSloy, Argyle Business Association

697 – 701 Hale Street, London, Ontario

