

November 12, 2020

Dear Members of Council,

These letters were scheduled to be collected and returned by the Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Planning and Environment Committee (PEC) meeting as per Resolution from the Council Meeting of one week ago.

These signatures were collected door to door and face to face in the North Talbot area.

The petition was written to be informative and its goal clear and questions were answered through person to person conversation.

Ward 13 Councillor, Councillor Kayabaga has not apparently reached out to the community as a whole either directly or through the Councillor's monthly newsletter or through social media.

Therefore, these signatories should be considered as individuals with an independent voice in support of heritage designation of the Kent Brewery Building and the homes of the Hamilton Family.



We the undersigned endorse the following statement:

A new development proposal on the corner of St. George Street and Ann Street in the North Talbot Neighbourhood would require the demolition of several heritage buildings, **specifically the historical Kent Brewery and the home of brewer Joseph Hamilton.**

The brewing history in London Ontario is significant on a national scale with some of the largest breweries in Canadian history, Labatt and Carling, having their roots here. Kent Brewery, a smaller brewery became famous for its "London Porter" a brand that played on a centuries-old tradition of well-regarded porters brewed in London, England.

Heritage Planning Staff and London's Advisory Committee on Heritage have recommended heritage designation and protection of the Kent Brewery Building (197 Ann Street) and the home of brewer Joseph Hamilton (183 Ann Street).

There is an additional property associated with the Kent Brewery, 179 Ann Street, which was owned by brewer John Hamilton, and lived in by his son, Joseph Hamilton. This property, through its association with the Hamilton family, also merits consideration for designation.

Taken together, these three structures (197 Ann Street, 183 Ann Street, and 179 Ann Street) are visually and functionally linked: they present a rare surviving Canadian example, along with Alexander Keith's Brewery in Halifax, of a 19th Century brewery district, where the brewers' houses are preserved along with the brewery building.

The London Plan (the city's official planning document that thousands of Londoners shaped through their participation and their voices), clearly states:

554\_ - 3. Ensure that new development and public works are undertaken to enhance and be sensitive to our cultural heritage resources.

562\_ Strategies will be developed to promote the adaptive re-use or repurposing of existing built heritage assets to support green building design to reduce demand on natural resources.

563\_ In conformity with the Urban Regeneration policies in the Our City part of this Plan, initiatives will be taken to support the adaptive re-use of cultural heritage resources to facilitate economic revitalization of neighbourhoods and business areas.

565\_ New development, redevelopment, and all civic works and projects on and adjacent to heritage designated properties and properties listed on the Register will be designed to protect the heritage attributes and character of those resources, to minimize visual and physical impact on these resources. "..... and explore alternative development approaches and mitigation measures to address any impact to the cultural heritage resource and its heritage attributes." (source **The London Plan pgs. 137 and 138**).

While this petition is focused on the preservation of the Kent Brewery, heritage protection and neglect of city policy as it relates to heritage preservation is a problem across the city, therefore I am asking that council:

1. Support the LACH recommendation to designate the Kent Brewery building at 197 Ann St and the house built by brewer Joseph Hamilton at 183 Ann Street.
2. Request that staff review 179 Ann Street for potential designation, a house owned by John Hamilton and lived in by his son, brewer Joseph Hamilton.
3. Uphold the principles of the London Plan as it relates to heritage preservation by integrating cultural heritage resources into new developments.

