

KENYAN-CANADIANS IN LONDON ONTARIO

E-mail: kecalo4@gmail.com

Chair and Members, Planning and Environment Committee

C/o Heather Lysynski

City Clerk's Office, London City Hall

300 Dufferin Street, London, Ontario N6A 4L9

12th April 2013

Dear MS Lysynski,

<u>Preservation of The property at 275 Thames Street (i.e. "fugitive slave chapel")</u>



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community in London. It is a reminder of their heritage and achievements as a black community of the first African Methodist Episcopal Church in London Ontario. Through this church, money was raised for John Brown who came from the United States in 1858 to buy weapons for the slaves. Clearly, the church was instrumental in the clamour against slavery, which eventually contributed to the freedom of slaves in the United States of America.

KECALO supports the initiative of Fugitive Slave Chapel Preservation Project to relocate the chapel on 275 Thames Street onto a lot next to Beth Emmanuel Church where it shall be used as a community centre for people of all races and religions. The chapel will also be used as a museum for Black History artifacts and therefore be an added education centre to wider London communities.

We feel proud to be associated with these discussions and look forward to our collaborations with you as we seek ways of preserving the unique history of the slave