

Subject: [External] Notice of Intent to Designate the Cober Church

Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 2:32:10 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time

From: shield shield

To: Clerks@vaughan.ca

CC: John Britto, Nick Borcescu, Katrina Guy, Chris Ainsworth,
[REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 2
8785 DUFFERIN

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We are responding to the registered letter received May 2, 2024 notifying us of the City of Vaughan's intent to designate the Cober Church under the Ontario Heritage Act. As Trustees of the Church, we are sending this email with some of our concerns and objections about proceeding with this process.

First of all, it should be noted that the property municipally known as 8785 Dufferin Street in the City of Vaughan, refers to the cemetery at that location and is owned by the City of Vaughan. The buildings referred to in the Notice of Intent to Designate consist of a one-storey frame church and a drive shed and are located on the adjacent property to the south. They are privately owned and have no separate street address. This needs to be corrected so that it is clear what and where is being proposed for designation.

We have had very little time to digest the ramifications of an official designation of our property and buildings and feel that a face to face meeting would be appropriate to fully address all the issues before it goes to Council for approval.

The Heritage Vaughan Committee Report, dated February 28, 2024 which we were able to find on the City of Vaughan website states that there are no Financial or Operational Impacts with the report. A follow up email from Katrina Guy, Cultural Heritage Specialist clarified that this generally means that there are no financial or operational concerns for the City of Vaughan. The owners, however are still responsible for all impacts with the added restrictions imposed by the Heritage Act. This also appears to apply for the "long term future" with no option for review which will impose additional hardship to the owners.

Finally, the Notice of Intent identifies that the Church, "was built in the plain style as an embodiment of the congregation's faith and values which focuses on simplicity, piety and spirituality". This is still true today and we are concerned that a heritage designation will draw attention to the property and buildings and it will be perceived as a public site as opposed to a place of worship. To date, we have been very fortunate to have only experienced minor issues of trespassing and vandalism but a designation is bound to bring additional notice.

We as the Trustees of the Cober Church feel strongly that the Intent to Designate the Cober Church should not go to Council for approval before our issues and concerns have been fully addressed. We will make ourselves available for a meeting with City of Vaughan staff at the earliest opportunity.

We are respectfully submitting our opposition to the Notice of Intent to Designate the Cober Church as written and requesting a delay in the designation process until after a meeting

occurs.

Regards,

Marjorie (Reaman) Shield

Paul Baker

Linda Earl

(Trustees of the Cober Church)

Subject: [External] Meeting to Discuss the Cober Church

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024 at 3:13:00 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time

From: shield shield

To: John Britto, Nick Borcescu, Katrina Guy, Chris Ainsworth

CC: Clerks@vaughan.ca, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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In our response to the Notice of Intent to Designate the Cober Church, we (the Trustees of the Cober Church) requested a meeting with City of Vaughan representatives to discuss our issues and concerns before it goes to Council for approval.

I have consulted with the other two Trustees, Paul Baker and Linda Earl and we can be available to meet on site at the Church on any of the following dates (preferably in the morning). May 28, May 29 or May 31. Since Paul Baker will be driving from Pennsylvania which is approximately an eight hour trip each way, we are hoping that one of these dates will work and that the appropriate people will be available to attend.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and have a great long weekend.

Regards,

Marjorie (Reaman) Shield

On behalf of the Trustees of the Cober Church

Subject: [External] Feedback on Intent to Designate the Cober Church
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 4:12:51 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time
From: shield shield
To: Nick Borcescu
CC: Katrina Guy, Aminata Shaw, John Britto, Chris Ainsworth,
[REDACTED]

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Nick,

Thank you for all the hard work that you and your staff have put in related to the Cober Church property. We appreciate your help and clarification in addressing our many questions and we also appreciate that you took the time to meet with us and tour the grounds and buildings.

After careful consideration, we have decided that we do not wish to have a heritage designation on our buildings.

Respectfully,

The Trustees of the Cober Church

Paul Baker

Marjorie (Reaman) Shield

Linda Earl