

# HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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Toronto, ON M5S 1X1



Attn. Mary Ann Hunwicks,  
Registrar,  
Conservation Review Board.  
Case CRB 1712  
Re Party Status for HVRA

July 26, 2017.

Dear Ms Hunwicks:

With respect, HVRA wishes formally to put on record our concern that HVRA might not be granted party status at the hearing of the appeal of the heritage designation of 698 Spadina, the Ten Editions Bookstore building at the corner of Spadina and Sussex.

HVRA has a direct interest in this case. Our catchment extends from Bloor to College, Spadina to Bathurst. We carry some 600 members on our rolls. We have acted as a party on mediations and OMB hearings since 1999. We have never before been denied immediate party status.

We are knowledgeable about heritage, having been active on creating two HCDs in our neighbourhood. We sat on Bloor Visioning, which identified heritage assets along Bloor St. We have been involved in heritage issues at Mirvish Village, and along the College St. corridor. Heritage has been part of our work on the City's University of Toronto Area Liaison Committee. We identified the first president's historic house which was subsequently preserved at the Centre for Information Technology Building on St. George, just south of Russell. We were active on proposals for the University College residence on St. George. We are presently engaged in consultations on the University of Toronto's application to amend the St. George campus master plan. Most recently, we were a party to an OMB mediation on 316 Bloor St. which had, as one issue, the view corridor from Spadina and College north, and the protection of the view of the 1 Spadina spire.

Physically, our Heritage Conservation District Part Two sits across a lane from the site. HVRA worked directly with Cathy Nasmith on the HCD district plan which first identified the building of heritage value in 2007. We worked with Councillor Ceta Rhamkalawansingh on her request to have Heritage Preservation Services evaluate the subject building.

We can speak to its Historic or Associative value to the Community as a whole, as the bookstore is frequented by a wide cross-section of our community and, along with its predecessors, has done for over 40 years.

HVRA Residents' Association would contribute directly to the Board's understanding of the Community's interest in this designation. We believe that Community interest should have standing and be represented in any discussions between existing parties and the Board, particularly, but not limited decisions around:

1. Determination on carriage of the matter, whether it be linked to the OMB appeal lodged by the University on the Sussex Spadina site, which proposes demolition 698 as part of its proposed footprint;
2. Decisions around mediation and the rules of engagement there;
3. Inclusion on communications, witness statements and document circulation;

We were astonished and dismayed that the University of Toronto argued we should not immediately be recognized as a party to not only the hearing, but also the discussions on the best way forward on this appeal. We understood the City of Toronto supported our request for party status.

The Community should not be denied full input into this matter going forward.

Respectfully

Sue Dexter  
Carolee Orme  
Harbord Village Residents' Association.