

Myers, Jeanie

From: Szarko, Tracy
Sent: 2021/07/29 4:10 PM
To: Myers, Jeanie
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Application for Minor Variance #A2021-0142 Ward #1 - 5 Isabella Steet, Brampton

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Dear Jeanie:

We are Tracy and Dan Szarko. We live at 37 Isabella Street, exactly one block North of this proposal. Like many of our neighbours, we moved into this neighbourhood nearly 20 years ago because of it's outstanding character and plan on staying here.

As a trained Architect, the character and detail of these century houses, Victorian, Edwardian, Cottage, Arts and Crafts, are the core of what makes the street exceptional. The width of the lots, the separation between the houses, the complete lack of sprawl-style garage front door houses and the tree-lined boulevard makes this street and neighbourhood not only a historic part of the downtown core, but something to proudly call "old Brampton". Like Elizabeth Street and Chappel Street, Isabella is a street that needs not only protection through by-law adherence but should have equal consideration given to the architectural style and character of any "infill" property. This last month saw a Netflix Movie filmed in 5 of our houses because of their unique charm and beauty. Please don't allow the dilution of our distinctive street by allowing the destruction of one of our listed buildings.

I am requesting that the City of Brampton completely reject the request for variances, based on the Khalsa Design structure proposed at 5 Isabella St for the following reasons:

- the existing by-laws governing construction in this sensitive historic area, are not sufficient to protect the value of this neighbourhood or prevent inappropriate structures such as this from even getting approved from an aesthetic standpoint. Given that the neighbouring houses are historically-listed one story cottages, built almost 150 years ago or so, I think what is needed is not only rejection but more protection to the existing allowances to prevent this type of proposal in the first place.
- The design of that house has NO architectural style, no comprehension of the existing historic context either materially or structurally.
- When we have a beautiful new downtown core with our new university and urban plan, we need to ensure the protection of the historical structures that define this beautiful city.
- No structure with a two car garage as a façade should be permitted on a historic street, that is a new development feature which is where this design belongs.
- Tearing down a historically-listed house to build an unsightly, inappropriate monster house is a sure way to erode the distinction and desirability of our street and neighbourhood.

Beseeching a rejection of the variance requests AND the architectural design,

Tracy and Dan Szarko
37 Isabella Street
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