

# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

## BY-LAW NUMBER 05-196

### **BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF PETERBOROUGH UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18 (90 Murray Street)**

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PETERBOROUGH BY THE COUNCIL THEREOF HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the hereinafter described properties be and they are hereby designated to be of historical and architectural value or interest pursuant to the provisions of the Ontario heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18, for the reason hereafter stated:

a) 90 Murray Street

Lot 3 South Of Mcdonnel Street, East Of Water Street Plan 1 Town Of Peterborough; Lot 3 North Of Murray Street, East Of Water Street Plan 1 Town Of Peterborough; Lot 4 South Of Mcdonnel Street, East Of Water Street Plan 1 Town Of Peterborough; Lot 4 North Of Murray Street, East Of Water Street Plan 1 Town Of Peterborough

#### REASON FOR DESIGNATION

Central School has distinct heritage significance, illustrated through its strong architectural and historical value.

Within the context of the development of Peterborough's education system, Central School is extremely important. Built on the site of Peterborough's first log schoolhouse, Central School, or Union School as it was originally named, was built to replace both common and grammar schools in the area. Construction started in 1857, and the new school opened on January 3, 1860. The school soon exceeded its capacity of 400 students, and in 1871, a new school building was built to the west of the original structure to provide additional space.

Over the next two decades, several more schools were built in Peterborough to accommodate for the growing student population. Another classroom addition was built in 1891 on the rear of the original building, as well as a new gymnasium in the mid 1890's. The two buildings are currently physically linked in yet another (modern) addition.

Central School remains important to the thousands of local students (and their families) who graduated over the years. Included among the alumni is the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, Prime Minister of Canada, and Nobel Peace Prize winner. Pearson, who lived in Peterborough while his father was the minister at George Street Methodist Church, graduated from Central School in 1908. Pearson returned to Peterborough for Central School's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1960.

A dominant feature on the streetscape, Central School remains a good example of the Italianate style, despite past renovations. The projecting frontispiece (that was formerly a tower), wide overhanging eaves, and tall windows are hallmarks of the style, as is the low-hipped roof on the original building. The 1871 addition retains similar features to the original structure, but is not as emphatically Italianate in style.

The Central School building is also among the anchor buildings surrounding Victoria Park; the other buildings include: the Peterborough County Courthouse, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and St. John's Anglican Church and manse.

By-law read a first and second time this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005

By-law read a third time and finally passed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005

(Sgd.) Sylvia Sutherland, Mayor

(Sgd.) Nancy Wright-Laking, City Clerk