



City of
Burnaby

Office of the City Clerk

K. O'Connell, City Clerk
B. Zeinabova, Deputy City Clerk

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

DATE: 2019 JULY 31

FROM: DEPUTY CITY CLERK

FILE: 02410-20

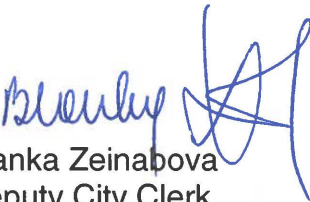
SUBJECT: MADGE HOGARTH HOUSE DEMOLITION
NEW BUSINESS, COUNCIL 2019 JULY 29

Under the New Business portion of the 2019 July 29 Council meeting, Councillor Jordan referred to the Item (U) of the Council Correspondence package for 2019 July 25.

Without objection, the following motion was immediately adopted by Council:

1. THAT this item of correspondence be **REFERRED** to the Community Heritage Commission.

Please find Item (U) of the Council Correspondence package attached.


Blanka Zeinabova
Deputy City Clerk

BZ:rj

Copied to: City Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Planning and Building

From: Donald Luxton [mailto:donald@donaldluxton.com]

Sent: July-24-19 4:40 PM

To: Clerks

Subject: To Mayor and Council

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

For distribution to Mayor and Council prior to the next Council meeting on Monday.

My sincerest thanks in advance.

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City Manager

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23 July 2019

Professor Andrew Petter
President and Vice-Chancellor
Simon Fraser University
dpo@sfu.ca

re: Urgent Appeal Regarding the Imminent Demolition of Madge Hogarth House.

Dear Professor Petter,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Stewardship Council of the Arthur Erickson Foundation to request your immediate intervention in a matter of great concern: the imminent demolition of one of the original Erickson/Massey buildings, Madge Hogarth House, opened in 1965, situated in the West Precinct of the original SFU campus.

The Arthur Erickson Foundation is a Canada-wide organization dedicated to preserving Arthur Erickson's masterworks, in addition to education and advocacy regarding Arthur Erickson's legacy. The original Simon Fraser University campus is considered internationally as a masterwork of architecture and a landmark unified design. The Erickson/Massey vision for the campus included the core original buildings and also provided for the future expansion of the university that would preserve the excellence of design while accommodating the growth crucial to SFU's success.

Despite the significance of this masterwork, we have been noting with increasing alarm not just the erosion of the integrity of the original buildings through a continuing lack of maintenance, but also new design interventions that are completely out of character with the architectural legacy of the campus.

In a letter from Ian Abercrombie, Director, Campus Planning and Development dated June 20, 2019, we have been informed that the proposed demolition of Madge Hogarth House is due to "*seismic, life safety, fire safety and other deficiencies and complexities*" without any recognition of the heritage value of the structure, which does not seem to have ever been assessed. There are many ways to

achieve sufficient life safety upgrades that would not require demolition of this highly significant structure.

More surprising is the claim in the same letter that *"the design of the new development (known as "Phase 2 Residences") pays homage to Madge Hogarth House, particularly the massing and articulation of the new low-rise structure nearest University Drive West. The materials and architectural detailing for Phase 2 expresses a complementary and contemporary interpretation of architectural expression of Erickson's legacy buildings, with the rhythm of the glazed and solid panels of the building's envelope evoking that of Madge Hogarth House."* Our review of the proposed new design reveals that it is entirely out of character with the original architectural vocabulary of the Erickson/Massey vision for SFU. There is little in this new design that respects the form, scale, massing, or character of this original vision. The Phase 2 Residence design lacks understanding of the delicate nature of interventions to historic buildings, similar to the painfully divisive controversy over the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. Surely there is a better way to resolve this issue without resorting to a solution that is so aggressive and out of character.

The Arthur Erickson Foundation Stewardship Council has been a participant in the SFU Burnaby 2065 Campus Master Plan Design Review Panel; two of our members, Larry Beasley and Donald Luxton, sit on the Panel. We have already expressed our concern at the lack of definitive language in the draft reports, for example, the use of expressions like *"preserve the ensemble of iconic spaces and buildings"* and *"thoughtfully celebrate Erickson's and Massey's original aspirations for the campus"* without any indication of how these objectives would be accomplished and what level of conservation would be achieved.

We are at a loss to understand why current developments, including the new Student Union Building, the Convocation Mall fountain, and now the proposed demolition of the Madge Hogarth House, do not respect the architectural vision of SFU's original master plan.

If the replacement of Madge Hogarth House with a completely inappropriate new building, so out of character with the SFU historic legacy, is how the legacy will be "respected", we would lose faith in the process ever accomplishing anything meaningful regarding the protection of the masterful buildings and campus, and we would be forced to withdraw our participation from the Campus Master Plan Design Review Panel.

It would be an international embarrassment to sanction the further erosion of the Erickson/Massey SFU legacy. A dialogue concerning creative alternative solutions that preserve the building within the campus community has hardly begun, and would be in the interests of all. Sober second thought is now needed.

Consistent with these sentiments, we respectfully request the following actions:

- That the proposed demolition and replacement of Madge Hogarth House be immediately halted, to allow for further exploration of the potential for the rehabilitation of this historic structure.
- That a full heritage assessment, including a Statement of Significance, be undertaken for Madge Hogarth House.
- That an immediate meeting be held with all concerned parties to further discuss alternatives to demolition, including new uses for Madge Hogarth House and an alternate site for the Phase 2 Residences.

We hope for an outcome that will respect the historic legacy of Simon Fraser University, and demonstrate a new level of stewardship for this architectural masterwork. Thank you in advance for your consideration, and for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Lambert

Phyllis Lambert, CC, GOQ, CAL, LLD, FRAIC, Hon FAIA, Hon RIBA
Chair, Stewardship Council, Arthur Erickson Foundation

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Original Rendering of Madge Hogarth House (Women's Residence) by Erickson Massey Architects.



Proposed Replacement Building "Phase 2 Residences."