

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KENORA

BY-LAW NUMBER 160 - 2008

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A CERTAIN PROPERTY UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act states that the council of a municipality may, by by-law, designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest if,

(a) where criteria for determining whether property is of cultural heritage value or interest have been prescribed by regulation, the property meets the prescribed criteria; and

(b) the designation is made in accordance with the process set out in this section. 2005, c. 6, s. 17 (1)., and

WHEREAS the property at 350 Second Street South, Plan 25, Blk 2, Lots 273 & 274 , meets the criteria prescribed by the Province for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS Heritage Kenora considered a staff report recommending designation of this property at its meeting of August 21, 2008 and recommended the property be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS these actions of the City of Kenora Council fulfill the requirement of the Ontario Heritage Act that Council consult with the Board before giving notice of its intention to designate a property; and

WHEREAS the staff report advises that the building meets the criteria for historical designation under the Act; and

WHEREAS extensive community consultation has made very clear the significance of the building as a historical, cultural and architectural anchor, helping to define the historical character of the neighbourhood; and

WHEREAS a notice of intention to designate was issued on September 17, 2008, with the end of the appeal period being October 17, 2008, with no appeals having been received; and

WHEREAS acting now to designate the property under the Ontario Heritage Act will protect the heritage of the downtown area and City of Kenora skyline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Kenora hereby enacts as follows:-

1. That the property located at 350 Second Street South, Plan 25, Blk 2, Lots 273 & 274, known as the Kenora Fire Hall be and is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value or interest, as indicated in Schedule A to this By-law;
2. That this by-law shall take effect and come into force upon third and final reading of the by-law.

BY-LAW READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 20th DAY OF October, 2008
BY-LAW READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME THIS 20th DAY OF October, 2008

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KENORA:-

PER: _____
LEONARD P. COMPTON, MAYOR

PER: _____
JOANNE L. MCMILLIN, CITY CLERK

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Description of Property

350 Second St, South

Kenora, ON

Plan 25, Blk 2, Lots 273 & 274

Zoning: GC – General Commercial

Architect: Fred A. Hudson

This is a 2½ storey commercial building located on the north side of Second Street, in Kenora.

Design or Physical Value

The 2½ storied, full basement commercial fire hall is brick, concrete, wood and Tyndall stone construction. The architecture is typical of the early architecture in Kenora. This is reflected through many unique features including the post protrudes at each of the four corners of the tower which are capped with limestone; the brackets along the soffits under the main roofline and tower roofline; and its Romanesque arches. The central roofline of the building is broken by a stepped gable which sits above the central bay window. The gable is capped with limestone and an ornamental ball finial. This type of gabling is featured in two other buildings in town - the Doner Block and the Kenricia Hotel. Three windows, the middle one arched and the side two rectangular, grace the face of the gable with their limestone lintels and keystone in the curve of the arch.

- Industrial Romanesque architecture
- Tower 67' in height, with functioning bell (bell built in Troy, NY – manufacturer still in business)
- Tower built with four (4) post protrudes
- Palladian window in central bay
- Bracket soffits generally in good condition
- Tyndall stone lintels, copings, sills, keystone and quoins
- Hayloft, coal chute, horses trough
- Brass fire pole
- Interior porcelain brickwork, tin ceiling, wooden stairway banister
- Alarm box (with bell)

Historical or Associative Value

The Kenora Fire Hall is the community's fourth. Ironically, the first three burned down. As most of the homes and buildings were constructed of wood in the early days of the town, the need for fire protection was evident. A volunteer fire brigade was organized and a fire hall was built on Main Street in 1885. It burned down in 1887. A new hall was constructed that year, but it too burned to the ground two years later. A third fire hall was built (on the present site of the library), this time of stone, but it suffered the same fate as its predecessors and burned in January 1912.

The current Kenora Fire Hall was built in 1912 at 350 Second Street at a total cost of \$20,875. The architect was Fred A. Hudson, co-owner of the contracting business Scott & Hudson, and volunteer Fire Chief. Contactors were Sharman and Gilbert.

- One of the five fire halls (including Keewatin) in the community that has not burned down
- Represents part of the original infrastructure of the City of Kenora
- Oldest municipal structure in the City (1912)
- Reflects architecture, and information, on life in the early 1900's
- Represents defining events for the community
- Provides a focal point for the history of firefighting in the City of Kenora
- Reflects the unique aspects of the career/lifestyle of the firefighter over the past century

Contextual Value

The hose tower is its most distinguishing feature. At 67 feet in height, the tower stands as one of the landmarks of Kenora's roofline streetscape.

- Visually defines character of downtown area – three towers of City Hall, Kenricia Hotel and Fire Hall
- Defines the easterly boundary/entranceway to the City as an architectural feature
- Anchors easterly end of Second St. as a landmark building