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**CLERK'S OFFICE**  
John D. Leach  
Director, Customer and  
Legislative Services

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Town of Aurora  
100 John West Way,  
Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

October 27, 2011

Mr. Jim Leonard, Registrar  
Ontario Heritage Trust  
Heritage Programs and Operation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

Dear: Mr. Leonard

**RE: Notice of Intention to Designate a Property to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

**68 Wellington Street East  
"John W. Knowles House"  
Part Lot 14, First Range S of Centre Street, West of Railroad, Plan 107 and  
Part Lot 15, First Range S of Centre Street, West of Railroad, Plan 107 as in  
R442213, t/w R442213  
Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York**

Please find attached a Notice of Intention to Designate, which includes a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest and a description of the heritage attributes of the above-noted property.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Leach", is written over the typed name and title.

John D. Leach  
Director of Customer & Legislative Services/Town Clerk

c. Mai Al Nabhan, Manager of Heritage Planning and Urban Design



**NOTICE OF INTENTION  
TO DESIGNATE A BUILDING OF  
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora intends to designate the following property as a property of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended. A brief statement of reasons is included.

68 Wellington Street East

"John W. Knowles House"

Part Lot 14, First Range S of Centre Street, West of Railroad, Plan 107 and  
Part Lot 15, First Range S of Centre Street, West of Railroad, Plan 107 as in  
R442213, t/w R442213

Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York

**Description of Property**

The property known municipally as 68 Wellington Street East contains a two (2) storey red brick house of Edwardian style located on the north side of Wellington Street East between Wells Street North and Walton Drive (the "John Knowles House").

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The cultural heritage value of the property derives from its architectural, historical and contextual values. The John Knowles House is a good example of a residential structure built in the early 20th Century of Edwardian classic style for John W. Knowles, a butcher and a local politician. The John Knowles House is an important part of a group of significant heritage buildings that line the historic Wellington Street East.

**Physical Design Value**

The John Knowles House is a good example of residential Edwardian style which was popular from the years 1900 to 1930. It is a two (2) storey structure with smooth red brick exterior; square floor plan; hipped roof with centered dormer window and wide eaves; full width front covered porch with hipped roof; off-centre doorway; and a tall brick chimney.

**Historical /Associative Value**

The John Knowles House was built in 1905 for John W. Knowles, a butcher and a local politician. John W. Knowles opened a butcher shop on Yonge Street in 1881. Four (4) years later the store was relocated to the south side of Wellington Street East, just east of Yonge Street (now 9 Wellington Street East), where John W. Knowles' son and grandson operated it until 1976. John W. Knowles also had a long career in local politics, being elected as the Mayor of

Aurora in 1906, Reeve from 1907 to 1919 and again from 1921 to 1922. He was also a Warden of York County in 1916.

### *Contextual Value*

Located on the north side of Wellington Street East, the property contextual value derives from being part of a group of historical buildings that are lined on Wellington Street East between Wells Street North and Walton Drive. This group of buildings is a good representation of the pattern of 20<sup>th</sup> Century development and redevelopment in an otherwise 19<sup>th</sup> Century setting. While nearly half of the houses in the group were constructed after the year 1900, many of their neighbours continue to reflect the grandeur of a former Era.

### Description of Heritage Attributes

Reasons for designation include the following heritage attributes and apply to all elevations and the roof, including all facades, entrances, windows, chimneys, and trim, together with construction materials, their related building techniques and landscape features.

### Exterior Elements

- overall shape of the foursquare Edwardian classic style house;
- two (2) storey structure with red brick exterior;
- hipped roof with wide eaves;
- front facing centered dormer;
- brick chimney;
- all window openings on the historic house with their radiating brick voussoir;
- off-centered front door; and
- the shape and design of the full width covered front porch with hipped roof.

**DETAILED REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE UNDERSIGNED.**

Any person may, before 4:30 p.m. on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011, send by registered mail or deliver to the Town Clerk, Notice of Objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Town of Aurora will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and a report.

Further information respecting the proposed designation(s) is available from the Town Clerk's Office upon request.

DATED at Aurora this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011.

John D. Leach, Director of Customer & Legislative Services/Town Clerk, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1