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Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council Item 19.6, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on October 29 and 30, 2008 and Toronto and East York Community Council Item 30.10, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on January 26 and 27, 2010  
Enacted by Council: August 27, 2010

## **CITY OF TORONTO**

### **BY-LAW No. 1052-2010**

#### **To designate the property at 129 St. Clair Avenue West (Deer Park United Church) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.**

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 129 St. Clair Avenue West (Deer Park United Church) as being of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures located thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as 129 St. Clair Avenue West and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, a Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be posted on the City's web site for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4, Notice requirements under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and

WHEREAS a notice of objection dated December 23, 2008 was served upon the Clerk of the municipality; and

WHEREAS the objection has been withdrawn and City Council has approved revised reasons for designation; and

WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" to this by-law;

The Council of the City of Toronto HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The property at 129 St. Clair Avenue West, more particularly described in Schedule "B" and shown on Schedule "C" attached to this by-law, is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "B" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.

3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property at 129 St. Clair Avenue West and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be posted on the City's web site for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4, Notice requirements under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 27th day of August, A.D. 2010.

DAVID R. MILLER,  
Mayor

ULLI S. WATKISS  
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

## **SCHEDULE "A"**

### **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION**

#### Description

The property at 129 St. Clair Avenue West is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design, associative and contextual value. Located on the southeast corner of St. Clair Avenue West and Foxbar Road, Deer Park United Church was completed in 1912 and extended in 1931 with the completion of the Sunday School wing. The property is listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

#### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Deer Park United Church is a significant institution in the Deer Park neighbourhood where it is the oldest surviving church building. The origins of the church date to the late 1800s when a Presbyterian congregation was formed in "Deer Park", the residential community that developed around the intersection of Yonge Street and St. Clair Avenue as the City of Toronto expanded northward. After Deer Park was annexed in 1908, the congregation relocated to a new building on St. Clair Avenue, the main east-west thoroughfare in the neighbourhood. The current church was completed in 1912 and dedicated the following year as Deer Park Presbyterian Church. In 1925, the majority of the congregation elected to join the newly-formed United Church of Canada (an amalgamation of Methodist, Congregational and some Presbyterian churches).

As Deer Park United Church, the congregation continued the mission work, musical interests and social services for which it was known. It provided outreach and employment programs during the Depression of the 1930s, welcomed displaced British women and children during World War II, offered English classes for new immigrants in the 1950s and 1960s, and sponsored Vietnamese refugees in the 1970s. Deer Park United Church was a founding member of "The Churches-on-the-Hill", a group of local churches representing different Christian denominations that serve the community through joint programs, including food banks and affordable housing. Located on St. Clair Avenue West for nearly a century, the congregation of Deer Park United Church celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2006.

Deer Park United Church also has design value as a well-crafted example of the Neo-Gothic style, which was popular in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century for ecclesiastical and educational buildings. Displaying a distinctive corner tower and stone facing, the designs for the church were profiled in the September 1911 issue of Construction magazine, and featured at the Toronto Society of Architects' exhibition in 1912. Alterations to the complex over time, including the expanded Sunday School wing dating to 1931, have respected the original fabric and style of the church.

Contextually, Deer Park United Church is a landmark on St. Clair Avenue West in the Deer Park community. The church anchors the southeast corner of St. Clair Avenue West and Foxbar Road, one block east of Avenue Road, where its iconic architecture is highly visible. The church's location and setting are complemented by the city parks on the northeast and northwest corners of St. Clair Avenue West and Avenue Road, opposite. Amsterdam Square Park, located near the northeast

corner of the intersection, features a replica of a fountain from the Peace Palace at The Hague, which dates to 1929 and is designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Glenn Gould Park, near the northwest corner of St. Clair Avenue West and Avenue Road, contains the Peter Pan Statue (1929), which is recognized on the City's heritage inventory. With its placement on the south side of St. Clair Avenue West, Deer Park United Church adjoins the residential neighbourhood where the Foxbar Apartments at 54 Foxbar Road also date to the pre-World War I era and are listed on the City's heritage inventory.

### Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of Deer Park United Church related to its cultural heritage value as a representative example of Neo-Gothic styling associated with a significant institution in the Deer Park neighbourhood where it is a local landmark are:

- The scale, form and massing.
- The materials, including Credit Valley stone, Indiana limestone, terra cotta, slate, metal, glass and wood.
- The long rectangular plan with shallow transepts and low side aisles on the east and west elevations.
- The steeply-pitched cross-gable roof with brick and stone chimneys, and the shed roofs over the side aisles.
- At the northwest corner, the square tower with a flat roof, finials and a pinnacle.
- The main entrance, which is placed in a shallow porch on the north façade, with pairs of paneled wood doors and multi-paned transoms.
- The secondary entrance on the west face of the tower, and the entrance porch at the north end of the east wall, with wood doors with glazed inserts and blind transoms.
- The detailing on the entries, with pointed-arched surrounds, mouldings, quoins, carvings and, on the tower, a roundel.
- The window openings, with Tudor-arched, pointed-arched, flat-headed, lancet and clerestory windows.
- The window detailing, with stone mullions, tracery, labels and continuous sills.
- The applied detailing, with smooth band courses, buttresses, coping along the gables and, on the north façade, a niche with quoins.
- The cornerstones from the second Deer Park Presbyterian Church (1888) and the current church (1911).
- The collection of stained glass windows, including commissions by artists Peter Haworth and Yvonne Williams and memorial windows in the sanctuary, transepts and chapel (excluding 13 small panels along the east and west side walls and the lower west transept, and the three-part memorial window on the south wall of the chapel).
- The Sunday School wing at the south end of the church, which complements it with the stone cladding and trim, Neo-Gothic detailing, and combinations of flat-headed and pointed-arched openings.
- The interior is not included in the Reasons for Designation.

**SCHEDULE "B"**

PIN 21191-0075 (LT)

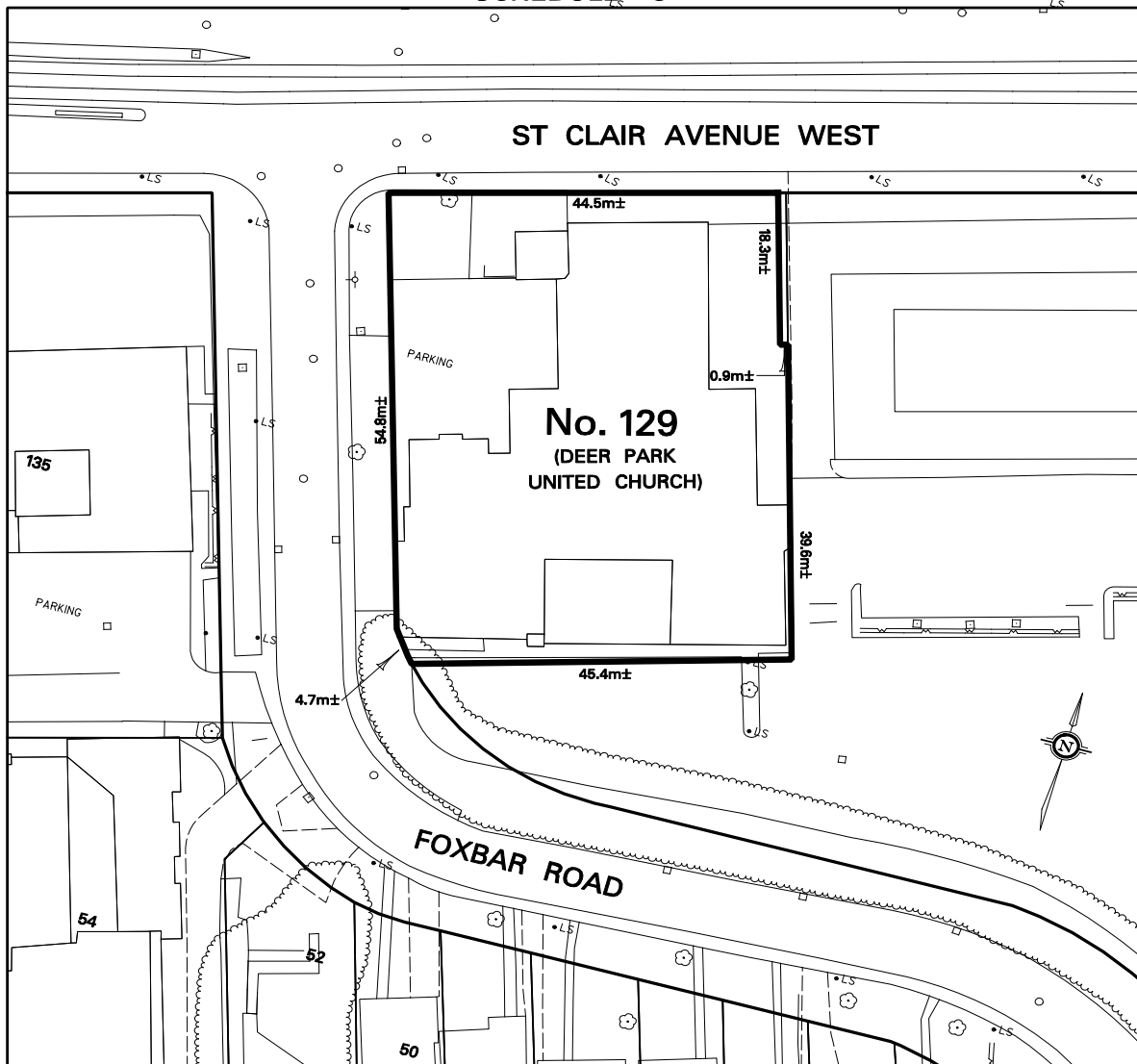
PT LT 11-13, 19-21 PL 325E TORONTO AS IN OS24414 EXCEPT EM43497 & OS38605

City of Toronto and Province of Ontario

Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Sketch No. PS-2010-017 dated February 25, 2010, as set out in Schedule "C".

## SCHEDULE "C"



**Toronto**

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION  
SURVEY & MAPPING SERVICES

NOTE:  
THIS SKETCH IS NOT  
A PLAN OF SURVEY  
AND HAS BEEN COMPILED  
FROM SURVEY NOTES AND  
OFFICE RECORDS. IT SHALL  
NOT BE USED EXCEPT FOR  
THE PURPOSE INDICATED  
IN THE TITLE BLOCK

CHECKED BY: JOHN HOUSE  
PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT

## PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

NO. 129 ST. CLAIR AVENUE WEST  
(DEER PARK UNITED CHURCH)  
LAND DESIGNATED AS BEING OF  
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE AND INTEREST

(NOT TO SCALE)

WARD 22 - ST. PAUL'S  
DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2010

SKETCH No. PS-2010-017