

December 11, 2017

Re: 1201 Fort Street/1050 Pentrelew REZ00525/DPV00035

Dear Mayor and Council:

The RNA wishes to go on record as supporting the neighbours in their continued opposition to this proposed rezoning. They are correct in that the proposed development is significantly incompatible with the OCP vision for the Fort Street Corridor, and that the infliction of profound change in the neighbourhood immediately in advance of the Rockland Local Area Planning process is inappropriate.

Although alterations have been made to the townhouse complex and some adjustment has been made on Building B to the transition to the south, fundamental issues - such as the massing of both buildings A and B - remain. A review of the Nov. 15/17 Plan Revision, South East Elevation p.10) clearly shows the unacceptable massing against the westerly skyline that will be inflicted upon the neighborhood. Six stories is an unreasonable height for the neighbourhood to be forced to absorb.

The core question remains: does a dominating bulk of six storeys fronting on Fort respond to the City's mandate to "conserve the heritage value, special character, significant historic buildings, and features and character of this area" and complement the "clusters of high quality examples of Italianate, Gothic Revival, Second Empire and Edwardian Vernacular-style houses between Cook and Ormond Street"? (OCP p.10)

The RNA continues to denounce what will inevitably be the loss of most of the mature trees on the site. This is the last significantly treed site on the Fort Street Corridor. While effort has been made to maintain a treed frontage on Fort, the removal of ten by-law protected trees and the jeopardizing of many more by blasting is unconscionable.

This proposal does not enhance the neighbourhood and should be unequivocably denied. The neighbours have put forward a reasonable compromise which includes affordable housing, respects current zoning, and allows for a fair increase in density. True citizen engagement and regard for neighbourhoods would expect that this is the way to move forward.

Sincerely, Janet Simpson, President