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From: D. B. Scott [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 4:24 PM

Subject: [External] McDougall Cottage sign

Re: request to alter a Part IV Property, McDougall Cottage Sign Permit Application (report no: 22-066-CD).

I want to strongly oppose the staff-driven recommendation to install a sign that obscures a good portion of the façade of McDougall Cottage at 89 Grand Avenue South. The rationale is both weak and misleading. The recommendation goes against the decision of the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee. And it flies in the face of years of efforts to preserve and enhance the stone cottage in favour of a mural that has overwhelms and actually has no relevance to the history of this designated cottage.

I can speak as someone who was involved in the saving and renewal of the building in the mid-80s. There was *never* intended to be what is effectively a garish billboard attached to it. This staff recommendation seems to be a well-meaning, but misguided, attempt to promote indigenous art that has little or nothing to do with "Rosie's Cottage" or its owners.

The staff report says the intent is to promote public arts programming carried out at the site in the service of "different ethnic, cultural, socioeconomic and gendered voices." Again, what does this have to do with this site or this building?

And the outcome of what Council is being asked to do is to hide a significant portion of coursed granite and stone façade of this important house. The impact is apparently thought by staff to be

“minor” and to be intended to provide an opportunity to interpret the indigenous history of the area and to showcase the work of indigenous artists. Yet the report and recommendation acknowledges that there was virtually never any consultation with the aboriginal community. And discussion with MHAC led to them rejecting the concept; simply ignoring the committee’s refusal.

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D. B. Scott



"Clutter & confusion are not attributes of information, they are failures of design." [@EdwardTufte](#)