



City of Ottawa  
110 Laurier Ave W.  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

22 May 2013

Dear Mr. Zwierzchowski:

This is a letter of support for a zoning application for 43 Blackburn Avenue (“the Carriage House”) to modify the exception to allow for daycare, community resource and office. This application is scheduled to be considered by the City of Ottawa Planning Committee on Tuesday, May 28, 2013.

This application is being brought forward by Leanne Moussa on behalf of an organized group of 32 Sandy Hill residents. The group recently acquired the Carriage House and plans to convert the historic property into a Child and Family Wellness Centre, a grassroots initiative that Action Sandy Hill (ASH), the neighbourhood community association, actively supports for a number of reasons.

First, the Carriage House has been a landmark in Sandy Hill and it has graced the corner of Osgoode Street and Blackburn Avenue for more than a century. ASH has high confidence that the building’s character and heritage contribution to the community will be preserved and enhanced in its new life as a daycare and wellness centre.

Second, the Bettye Hyde Cooperative Nursery School that has served Sandy Hill for more than 60 years will soon be displaced from its current home at All Saints United Church at the corner of Laurier East and Blackburn Avenue when the property on which it operates is sold by the diocese. It is the threat of losing their nursery school that prompted the residents to pool their resources to buy the Carriage House and convert it into a suitable location for the school. This community-minded endeavour ensures that our neighbourhood can continue to be served by the nursery school as soon as the renovations have been completed. The new location will allow the Bettye Hyde program to expand its services and to offer services in French and English. In addition, the professional services on the upper floor of the building will provide valuable and complementary health and wellness services to support many Sandy Hill families with young children.

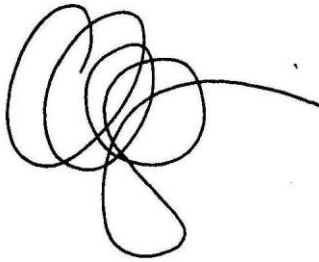
Finally, Action Sandy Hill support neighbours investing into their own neighbourhood in any way they can, whether through service, financial contribution or other kinds of engagement.

Sandy Hill is a vibrant, mature and dynamic neighbourhood that is continuously evolving and counts many seniors, embassies, students and new Canadians in its numbers. The commitment and community-mindedness of the 32 residents reinforces the fact that Sandy Hill remains a great place for families to live and work. Leanne Moussa, the organizer of this initiative, was presented the ASH Volunteer of the Year Award to the boisterous applause of almost 300 people at our most recent Annual General Meeting. This project clearly has strong community support.

Action Sandy Hill fully supports the efforts of residents to invest in their community and strongly supports this zoning change application.

On behalf of Action Sandy Hill I thank you for giving consideration to this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christopher Collmorgen

President  
Action Sandy Hill

250 Somerset Street East  
Ottawa, ON K1N 6V6