



O'Connor House

EDUCATION • CULTURE • HERITAGE • COMMUNITY

January 14, 2019

Dear O'Connor House Supporter,

Thank you for your past engagement with the O'Connor House. As you may know, the House has been under a series of repairs over the past two years due to water damage, making the mission of the O'Connor House Board difficult to achieve. Without access, we have been unable to plan arts, culture and heritage events for the community, or enable community organizations to use the property by permit for their own events.

This has also meant that the Board cannot raise funds from community supporters to pay for our portion of operational and liability insurance costs, so we have been personally contributing repeatedly to the House to cover our bills.

Additionally and most critical to our success, we have experienced ongoing struggles to obtain information and access from the Toronto Catholic District School Board. For example, we were not notified of the initial water damage or the repairs directly. Our own access requests between repairs have been delayed, missed, or not communicated to O'Connor Secondary School facilities staff to provide us with agreed to access.

Finally, the lack of communication regarding damage to the house, including damage caused through the use of the House for school classes, damage caused during the various repairs, and recent burglary break-ins, has meant we are also unable to fulfil our duty to oversee the upkeep of the House and the requirements of its Heritage designation.

We have attempted over the past two years in person and in writing, at our initiative, to ask the TCDSB to improve communications about repairs, maintenance, permits, and access for our Board per our lease agreement. We warned that the communications and access issues have caused significant financial strain, and rendered it impossible for us to realistically plan for anything. The situation has not improved.

We have concluded that our role is not deemed needed, and that our organization is financially untenable.

Therefore, it is with regret that the Board of Directors of the O'Connor Irish Heritage House (O'Connor House) writes to you to inform you that the following resolution was unanimously passed at the board meeting of Monday, November 26, 2018:

“Be it resolved that the Board of O’Connor Heritage House will dissolve its charitable status in accordance with CRA rules. The Board will also dissolve the corporation and will apply for a certificate of dissolution from Corporations Canada. BN815633946RR0001.”

The current lease agreement with the TCDSB expires on January 31, 2019 and we will be revoking our status as a non-profit organization with the Canada Revenue Agency by March 31, 2019, and the Board will dissolve.

We wish the TCDSB the best with the continued maintenance, use and upkeep of the O’Connor House.

Again, thank you for your past support.

With gratitude,
The O’Connor House Board

Carole Zamroutian
Fabiana Montoya
Sandeep Khanna
Kathleen O’Keefe
Yana Yaroshenko
Kirsten Kamper
Tony Wagner