



P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3Y3, (604) 254-9411

July 6, 2010

Mayor Gregor Robertson and Council
c/o Vancouver City Hall
453 W. 12th Ave.
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1V4

RE: Beach Towers - 1600 Beach Ave.

There has been recent discussion about potential changes to Beach Towers, a prominent West End site located at 1600 Beach Avenue. A significant modernist complex, Beach Towers are on the City of Vancouver's Recent Landmark list. A full understanding of the site's heritage value should be determined prior to the finalization of any planning or development work for this site. On behalf of Heritage Vancouver, I am writing to request that a Heritage Register evaluation and a Statement of Significance be undertaken for Beach Towers.

Heritage Vancouver supports the City of Vancouver's desire to create more rental units through its Short Term Incentives for Rental Housing (STIR). However, as part of the development process, the developer is normally required to prepare a Statement of Significance if a site might have heritage value; this document then provides guidance as to what can and cannot be appropriately modified on a potential heritage site. It gives both the developer and the city more certainty and avoids conflicts later into the process. We urge you to make sure this important step is included in considering any development options for this prominent and significant site.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "don luxton".

Donald Luxton, President
Heritage Vancouver

Penny Ballem, City Manager
Marco D'Agostini, Senior Planner, Heritage Group
Brent Toderian, Director of Planning
Michael Gordon, Central Area Planner
City of Vancouver Heritage Commission