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May 18, 2006

Mayor Sullivan and Council  
Vancouver City Hall  
453 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor Sullivan and Council:

**Re: Fire Hall No. 15**

We are writing to express our concern regarding the proposed replacement of Fire Hall No. 15, and to add our support to local groups working to see the structure preserved and rehabilitated for community uses. The Fire Hall was listed on Heritage Vancouver's Top Ten Endangered List for 2005, and would have been on our 2006 list had we known its fate was still so uncertain.

Fire Hall #15 is the last remaining of its kind still in use, as Fire Hall #13 was demolished in 2002. Built in 1913, this neighbourhood landmark features extensive interior woodwork, ornate pressed-metal ceilings, and the original brass pole. The building has heritage significance architecturally and is valued by the Renfrew-Collingwood community.

We understand that Council is considering options for a replacement fire hall. We strongly oppose demolition of the existing facility as there are numerous of options to avoid this. These include a) moving the old Fire Hall #15 across the street to Renfrew Park, or b) building the new fire hall in the Park or elsewhere in the neighbourhood.

Council has recently demonstrated its commitment to heritage conservation by mandating the upgrade of the City's Heritage Register. Fire Hall #15 is an opportunity for Council to demonstrate the same commitment when it comes to preservation of City-owned sites. The City needs to find a way to make this happen.

The old Marpole Fire Hall (#22) saw new life as the Marpole Place Seniors' Centre; Fire Hall #15 could make a similar contribution to its community.

Sincerely,

Donald Luxton, President

c.c. Gerry McGeough, Senior Heritage Planner  
Richard Keate, Chair, Heritage Commission  
Ray Holdgate, General Mgr., Fire & Rescue Services  
Susan Mundick, General Mgr, Park Board