



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament / Députée
Davenport



June 13, 2024

The Honourable Sean Fraser
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

Via Email

Dear Hon. Minister Fraser,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you regarding the fire that destroyed St. Anne's Anglican Church in Davenport on Sunday, June 9. The cause of the fire is yet to be determined. I would like to request information on any federal funds that may be available to help St. Anne's Church with its rebuilding effort

St. Anne's Church was a treasured historic and cultural site for all of Canada. Built in 1907, it was one of the oldest Anglican churches in Toronto. It was an architectural wonder as it was built in the Byzantine Revival style, considered a unique style for Anglican churches. In addition, the interior of St. Anne's Church was decorated with murals by members of the Group of Seven depicting events of the Old and New Testaments. These murals, dating back to 1923, were the only known religious artworks by the Group of Seven. The building was designated a National Historic Site in 1996. In 1980, the City of Toronto designated the church under the Ontario Heritage Act and, in 1981, the Ontario Heritage Trust secured a heritage easement on the building.

Beyond its historic and cultural significance, St. Anne's Church has served as a community hub for so many Davenport residents. From weddings to hosting local theatre group performances to providing Sunday dinners to those in need of a meal, St. Anne's Church has been a pillar of strength for our community and its loss will be felt by many. The St. Anne's congregation and wider Davenport community are committed to rebuilding the church. A Go Fund Me fundraiser was launched earlier this week to support this effort.

It is incredibly important that our federal government assist with the rebuilding of St. Anne's Church as a National Historic Site. I look forward to hearing from you regarding any financial assistance that may be available.

My very best regards,

Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament – Davenport

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