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Date: 23 August 2022

Our Ref: NR:cp:kr

Your Ref: D-22-69610

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Professor Charles Sowerwine
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Email: c.sowerwine@gmail.com

Dear Professor Sowerwine,

RE: VICTORY HOUSE, GEELONG ROAD, CANADIAN

Thank you for your email of 15 August 2022 to the Mayor and Councillors regarding the threat of demolition which faces Victory House. As the Director of Development and Growth, I am pleased to respond on their behalf.

The dwelling and outbuildings known as 'Victory House' was considered to be of potential heritage significance due to its association with Ballarat's Chinese goldmining community in the late 1800s and early 1900s through the Chung family. With this acknowledgement, Council commissioned a detailed Heritage Report to determine the significance of 'Victory House'. According to the Heritage Citation prepared by Dr Robyn Ballinger of *History Making Pty. Ltd.* it was considered that 'Victory House' met the threshold of local significance.

This finding and supporting material was presented to Councillors at a meeting on 10 August 2022. Specifically, Councillors were asked to consider the application of an Interim Heritage Overlay by way of a Planning Scheme Amendment. This motion was not supported by the majority and subsequently lost.

Officers understand Heritage Victoria have also opted not to apply an Interim Heritage Overlay however have resolved to include the site in the Victorian Heritage Inventory. This provides the site with a degree of heritage protection. To this end, prior to any works being undertaken on site the owner must obtain the consent of Heritage Victoria.

In addition, we understand that a third party may have lodged a request to Heritage Victoria pursuing further investigation. Should a referral be made to the City of Ballarat, the Statutory and Strategic Planning Department will have the opportunity to give evidence relevant to 'Victory House'. Until such time occurs, no further action is to be undertaken by the City of Ballarat.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Natalie Robertson".

Natalie Robertson
Director Development and Growth

CC. Mayor and Councillors