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Object

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Message

These further modifications' continue the horrific destruction of a fine museum which according to many other experts required minimal intervention to allow for the continued existence and operation of The Powerhouse Museum as we knew it.

What we have here is the eradication of an award winning piece of architecture which redefined the presence of the Museum of Applied Arts and Science in 1988 into a world class museum. The complete demolition of the Wran Building and the Galleria is particularly unacceptable. These important heritage structures are destined to be replaced by approximate replicas that are substantially shorter, clad in incongruous brick walls, and concealed behind a row of souvenir shops that diminish their dignity and public presence. This course of action directly violates established international heritage principles. If this project was truly about conservation we would be keeping these buildings as they are.

What are we going to get in return for this unnecessary expenditure of the state's money? Nothing that resembles the capacity and scope of the pre-closure museum facility. We know that spaces will be diminished from 21,080m² as stated in original PHM documents to approximately 30% of that . How can the museum's exhibits possibly be displayed appropriately? We know from the CEO that this museum's capacity for the display of science and technology is being seriously compromised by this 'revitalisation' . It's being turned away from its charter into a lightweight 'entertainment' venue.

This 'revitalisation' is destructive of the museum's real purpose and this reflected yet again in modifications which do more to facilitate this destruction both of the buildings and its focus. These modifications do not fit with the true purpose of proving The Powerhouse Museum , a museum of the applied arts and sciences, being able to continue in the form intended for the conservation and preservation of our heritage.

Thus these modifications must be opposed.