



## ICOMOS NEW ZEALAND

### TE MANA O NGA POUWHENUA O TE AO

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES  
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES  
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Minister, Arts Culture and Heritage

By email: [j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz)

31 October 2018

Dear Minister,

#### **Karori Teacher's Training College Campus, Wellington**

ICOMOS New Zealand is the national committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). ICOMOS is an international non-governmental organisation, founded in 1965, comprising heritage professionals from around the world, dedicated to the conservation and protection of places of cultural heritage value<sup>1</sup>. It is UNESCO's principal advisor in this field. It has an international membership of 10,000 expert heritage practitioners from over 130 countries.

ICOMOS New Zealand advocates for best-practice heritage conservation and it is for this reason that I am writing to you as it has come to our attention that buildings at the former Teacher's Training College Campus in Karori, Wellington, are about to be demolished. This is a Category 1 Historic Place, and is recognised by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga as having outstanding architectural significance as one of New Zealand's finest examples of brutalist architecture; historic significance associated with mid-twentieth century teacher training reforms, and social and cultural significance as a tertiary institution.

However, as it is not scheduled in the Wellington City District Plan, there is no form of protection available via the Resource Consent process. The only form of protection available therefore is a Heritage Order under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) Part 8. These can be placed by Heritage New Zealand, the Wellington City Council or Ministers of the Crown.

When the RMA was written in 1991 the intent of heritage orders was to allow for protection in urgent circumstances such as these. Therefore we request that a Heritage Order is placed on this property and buildings to avoid the loss of a nationally significant heritage place.

ICOMOS New Zealand is also responsible for maintaining a Heritage at Risk register which is provided to ICOMOS International. ICOMOS New Zealand placed the Karori Teacher's Training College on the Heritage at Risk register earlier this year, and we will be updating ICOMOS International on the current and future status of this site.

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<sup>1</sup> Places/sites of cultural heritage value may include buildings and other structures or monuments, gardens, archaeological sites, townscapes, settlements and sacred places.



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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Bowman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ian Bowman  
Chair, ICOMOS New Zealand

CC Justin Lester, Mayor Wellington City  
Wellington City Councillors  
Kevin Lavery, CEO Wellington City Council  
Wyatt Creech, Chair, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Board  
Andrew Coleman, CEO Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga  
Hon Grant Robertson, Associate Minister of Arts Culture and Heritage  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Associate Minister of Arts Culture and Heritage