



# CRAWFORD BLOCK

8222 - GATEWAY BOULEVARD NW

## CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

### DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The Crawford Block is a three-storey, brick clad commercial building. The building is located in a prominent location, mid-block in a commercial district in the historic Old Strathcona neighbourhood.

### HERITAGE VALUE

Constructed in 1912, the Crawford Block is significant because of its architecture, which is an excellent and well preserved example of Edmonton's commercial architecture during the Edwardian era.

The Crawford Block is significant because of its association with the development of Strathcona community, one of south Edmonton's oldest settled neighbourhoods dating from the arrival of the railway in 1892, and a separate city until amalgamation with Edmonton in 1912.

The Crawford Block is significant because of its association with Herbert H. Crawford, the designer, builder and first owner of the building. Crawford immigrated to Alberta from Ontario in 1898 and was a resident of Edmonton from 1903 until his death in 1946. Crawford was a successful real estate auctioneer and served as the Member of the Provincial Legislature for Strathcona.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 16916 in November 2014.*

### CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The Edwardian Commercial Architecture of the Crawford Block is expressed in character defining elements such as:

- + form scale and massing;
- + flat roof;
- + retail units at ground level with large wood framed glazing and transom windows, central recessed entry and wood panelled bulkheads;
- + 12 paired assembly windows on the east elevation;
- + precast concrete lintels and sills;
- + central triangular pediment at parapet level;
- + brick corbelling below the parapet;
- + red brick cladding;
- + seven pilasters above the first storey, delineating six bays in the façade; including four pilasters which project above the parapet with caps; and
- + coarse textured cast stone blocks on the first storey at the side of the retail frontages.

