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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TOWN COUNCIL RETAINS +VG ARCHITECTS TO EXPLORE  
PROPOSED TOWN HALL RENOVATION/ADDITION DESIGNS**

**Gananoque, ON:** The Town of Gananoque has retained the professional services of the Ventin Group (+VG) Architects of Ottawa to explore design options for renovating and/or building an addition to Town Hall. In 2015, Town Council authorized staff to proceed with seeking the services of a qualified heritage architectural firm to explore options that would return the Council Chambers to Town Hall and improve the current administrative offices. Such improvements would include creating public washrooms, improving staff washrooms, and making upgrades to meet current accessibility requirements to name a few.

The Town Hall is prominently located in Town Park at 30 King Street East in downtown Gananoque. The lands were conveyed to the Town by the MacDonald Family in 1911 and has been used for public purposes ever since including a court, jail, library and now Town Hall. The Town Hall is a municipally designated heritage building.

“It was important that we selected a firm who has experience working with heritage buildings and cultural landscapes,” expressed Mayor Demchuk. “The Town Hall is a focal point of the community and any renovations/additions made to the property must be in keeping with the historical significance of the building and its cultural surroundings.”

+VG Architects have completed a number of award winning heritage additions and restorations to municipal buildings. Several of their projects include the County of

Lennox and Addington Administrative Offices, the restoration of Union Station, Queens Park Toronto, Old Toronto City Hall, Meaford Hall, and Osgoode Hall. One of the first duties of the Architects will be to develop a needs assessment and then to consult with staff, Council and the public to determine the community's ideas and suggestions for their local centre of government.

“We are excited to be awarded this contract,” says Paul Sapounzi, lead architect of +VG Architects Ottawa Office. “With over 15 firms competing for this project, you can see that it has so much potential both for us as architects and the Gananoque community.”

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