The Scyfert 11 Nature of the IRAS Source IRC10214+4724

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We (Elston et al. 1993) have observed the rest frame optical and UV spectra of the luminous, high redshift IRAS galaxy IRC10214+4724. We find the [Nil]/l alpha and [0111 ]/l beta emission line ratios to be typical of those found in Scyfert 11 galaxies. The large l alpha/l beta ratio suggests substantial reddening of the narrow line region. The rest-frame optical emission is unpolarized (P=2.6±3.0%). These properties are very similar to those of the infrared luminous galaxies found at lower redshift, suggesting that IRC10214+4724 is the luminous extreme of the same population. A deep J.6pm image of the field shows IRC10214+4724 to be unresolved with two nearby companions and several other faint objects within 10'' of the point source. These could be a foreground group of galaxies or galaxies physically associated with IRC10214+4724. This aggregate of objects may have contributed some of the far-infrared flux detected within the large beam of IRAS. If there is a foreground group gravitational lensing may contribute to the large luminosity of IRC10214+4724.