## GL4.07.01



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General Government and Licensing Committee Attn: Julie Lavertu 10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 Via Email: gglc@toronto.ca

## Re: Redevelopment of St. Lawrence Market North GL4.07

Dear Councillors,

On April 24<sup>th</sup> you will be convening a review of the final and additional financing required to ensure the construction of the St. Lawrence North Market Hall (North Market Hall). The *St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA)* wants to add its collective and supportive voice to those who will be speaking – some as members of SLNA Committees - in support of recommending this last but crucial step to full Council.

The redevelopment of the North Market Hall is a shining example of what can be civically accomplished when varied City stakeholders come together to bring into focus a vision that, since 1999 when the SLNA first pushed this initiative into being, has been forged through the embrace of full community input and compromise and with the support, guidance and encouragement from a multitude of strategic City planners, managers and Council. In fact, it was the SLNA's involvement in this project that led to the creation of the *St. Lawrence Market Precinct Advisory Committee* (SLMPAC) which, to this day, remains a unique foundational stakeholder voice dedicated to the growth and preservation of the St. Lawrence Market Complex and its key landmark buildings, which are among the most valuable historical sites in Toronto – and this Province.

The SLNA represents thousands of residents spanning two Wards - residents for whom The St. Lawrence Market Complex of buildings and their offerings are a primary reason for investing, living and creating families in the downtown core. St. Lawrence neighborhood residents take pride in their area – a magnet for tourists – and a forerunner and example of a truly livable and sustainable urban environment, supportive of a broad and embracing socio-economic and ethnic mix of Torontonians that includes our City's original ten blocks.

## 2. Re: Redevelopment of St. Lawrence Market North GL4.07

The North Market Hall is key to advancing the history of this historic area and to moving it into our 21<sup>st</sup> century with an architecturally compatible multi-use City government contemporary structure, that has been designed by internationally acclaimed Richard Rogers of *Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners* and which, in itself, is destined to become a tourist attraction magnet for our City.

On April 24<sup>th</sup> you will hear from a series of speakers offering you an opportunity to evaluate a variety of viewpoints - historic, financial and civic – in support of ensuring that the empty space that has been a scar on the area since 2016, will finally blossom into a reality that continues to signal the success of Toronto as a modern, urban and embraceable experience. We support those speakers and it is our hope that, through their voices, you will better understand the significant importance of this initiative and will vote to recommend the final piece of additional financing to full Council.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to address you.

Kind regards,

THE ST. LAWRENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION (SLNA) Richard J. Anobile, President

cc: Kristyn Wong-Tam/councillor\_wongtam@toronto.ca Joe Cressy/councillor\_cressy@toronto.ca