

From: [Corktown President](#)
To: [Corktown President](#)
Cc: [Executive Committee](#); [Councillor Ainslie](#); [Councillor Crawford](#); [Councillor Minnan-Wong](#); [Councillor Thompson](#); [Councillor Bailao](#); [Councillor McKelvie](#); [Councillor Cressy](#); [Councillor Wongtam](#); [Tom Davidson](#); [Megan Poole](#); [Cory Lemos](#); kiel.hassanali@saben.ca; [Kristin Halliwall](#); [Louis Selmeci](#); [Alexandra Sandler](#); [Diandra Mohammed](#)
Subject: EX27.8 CRBA Letter
Date: October 26, 2021 4:25:06 PM
Attachments: [EX 27.8 CRBA Letter.pdf](#)

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

Please see attached letter for our response to Agenda Item EX27.8

The Corktown Residents and Business Association appreciates your consideration of its input.

Best regards,

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Andre Bermon
President
Corktown Toronto

Corktown Residents & Business Association
351 Queen Street East
P.O Box 82522
Toronto, ON
M5A 1T8



TO: City of Toronto Executive Committee
RE: First Parliament Site and Expropriation of City Owned Lands by Metrolinx for Transit Purposes

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

The Corktown Residents and Business Association (CRBA) is a non-profit community group representing varied interests and stakeholders in one of Toronto's oldest neighbourhoods. The CRBA is a founding member of the West Don Lands Committee and a member of the First Parliament Working Group.

As a result of the new planned use of the First Parliament Site (to accommodate both rapid transit and dense vertical development) the CRBA would like to communicate a number of asks in relation to the City Staff report (attached to agenda item EX27.8) that we hope the Executive Committee will take into consideration when motioning their verdict.

First and foremost, we ask the Executive Committee that if and when compensation offered by Metrolinx is deposited in the Land Acquisition Reserve Fund the proceeds will be dedicated in securing the site-specific priorities advised in the First Parliament Master Plan.

Reasons for this request are:

- A) The First Parliament Properties are not designated surplus lands
- B) The properties were assembled into public ownership to serve precise civic and community purposes
- C) No revenue generating mechanisms were considered as rationale for their assembly

The site-specific priorities identified in the First Parliament Master Plan include the procurement of parkland, a regional public library as well as proper commemoration of both indigenous activity on the site and the post contact establishment of the First Parliament Buildings. The CRBA requests that all three of these goals be pursued in the future Transit Oriented Community without compromise.

Provincial expropriation has undermined years of community effort and consultation – and while the CRBA supports the construction of additional rapid transit projects – our community can't help but feel disappointed with the current direction set out for the First Parliament site; given the land's significant historical importance to our community, city and country.

The CRBA implores the Executive Committee consider the future livability of our communities and carry out the requests recommended by this association and others in the downtown east.

Sincerely,

p.p.:

Board of Directors

Corktown Residents and Business Association

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