July 5, 2012

Toronto Preservation Board
Toronto East York Community Council

Re: Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act

Members of the Board,

The development of the Bay Adelaide Centre Precinct has provided a significant employment use in the Financial District, a built form that demonstrates excellence in design, high green standards, and tremendous street level animation. This landmark development has been carefully reviewed by Planning staff to integrate the buildings into the surrounding area and connect it to a network of public spaces, vibrant streetscapes and the PATH system.

I have reviewed the development proposal for Phase 2 (East Tower) with planning staff and believe it will provide an improved precinct. The construction of a new podium on Yonge Street will add a dynamic face towards this important street. Part of this plan involves the relocation of the existing Listed Building to the southwest corner of Yonge Street and Temperance Street. This move will create vibrant new street walls along both Adelaide Street West and Temperance Street.

The movement of a heritage resource is a significant change that must be considered carefully. I believe that this comprehensive plan addresses the overall city building goals of the City and this precinct.

Prior to Council approval, it is my intent to work with Heritage Preservation and Planning staff to require the developer to enter into a Letter of Intent to tie the demolition of 118 Yonge to approval and implementation of the overall development plan as submitted in their Heritage Impact Assessment to the City.

I respectfully recommend the Board not state its intention to Designate the property at 118 Yonge Street.

Sincerely,

Pam McConnell
Councillor, Ward 28