MEMO
TO: Toronto & East York Community Council
FROM: Councillor Joe Mihevc, Ward 21, St. Paul’s West
RE: Request for heritage review of 72 Wells Hill Avenue
DATE: September 10, 2012

SUMMARY:
An application to demolish 72 Wells Hill Avenue in the Casa Loma neighbourhood has been made to the City. Prior to issuing a demolition permit, I would like Heritage Preservation Services to conduct a review of this property to determine if it has heritage value. In an effort to expedite this process, I am moving this motion in advance of Toronto Buildings submitting its report regarding the demolition application to Toronto and East York Community Council.

Given that City Council has authorized the study of a possible Heritage Conservation District (HCD) in this area, Heritage Preservation Services recommends (in a report on the September Planning and Growth Management Committee) that this area is a medium priority to study because of development pressures and existing levels of protection, and the local Casa Loma Residents Association is interested in starting the HCD study process, I believe it is important to ensure that potentially historically significant properties are not demolished prior to work beginning on the HCD study.

This neighbourhood has been the subject of development pressures, most notably with Maclean House at 7 Austin Terrace. Following a strong City and community effort to preserve the property, the building’s façade is being preserved and restored.

RECOMMENDATION:
1. Toronto and East York Community Council direct Heritage Preservation Services to investigate the potential of including 72 Wells Hill Avenue on the inventory of heritage properties and report back as soon as possible and no later than January 2013.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, St. Paul’s West