



TORONTO 2015
Pan Am/Parapan Am

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Submitted by Councillor Mark Grimes

His Worship Rob Ford and City Councillors
Office of the Mayor and City Councillors
2nd Floor, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

June 10, 2013

Dear Mayor and Council:

The purpose of this letter is to bring your attention to a recent vote by the Toronto Preservation Board to designate the Back Campus of the University of Toronto as a heritage landscape. If agreed to by City Council, this designation will preclude the Back Campus from acting as the field hockey venue for the 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games.

During the Pan Am Games, two international-level pitches will host men's and women's field hockey competitions. The fields are being built to the exacting specifications required by international field hockey competitions, including the specific technical requirements for artificial turf and watering. It should be noted that there are no other fields in the Greater Golden Horseshoe region that currently meet these requirements for hosting international field hockey competitions.

During the Parapan Am Games, the fields will host football (soccer) 5-a-side and football 7-a-side, bringing vital parasport competition to the heart of our city and the University of Toronto.

After the Games, the fields will be used for elite hockey but also meet the existing gap for University of Toronto students for intramural and recreational sport. The turf will extend the university intramural season by four months and cut down substantially on waiting lists for access, enabling more students and nearby residents to enjoy the facilities and get fit. Given that this matter is before the Heritage Preservation Board, this essential and overarching legacy aspect of the fields is worth contemplating.

The Pan Am/Parapan Am Fields at the University of Toronto are about creating opportunities for students, residents and high-performance athletes to play together in a world-class facility for generations to come. We are proud to partner with the university in creating this important legacy of the Games and in contributing to a healthier community.

The construction for the field hockey venue is scheduled to commence on July 1, 2013. Should the City prevent the University of Toronto from allowing TO2015 to use the Back Campus for field hockey, by virtue of its acceptance of the Toronto Preservation Board recommendation, TO2015 will face serious challenges to confirm another site, resulting in added costs and complexity.

As the official Host City, it would be unfortunate if City Council took any action to undermine the Toronto 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. We urge you to vote against the Toronto Preservation Board's recommendation to designate the Back Campus of the University of Toronto as a heritage landscape.

Sincerely,

Ian Troop
Chief Executive Officer

Toronto 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games

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