October 11, 2012

via email: pgmc@utoronto.ca

Planning and Growth Management Committee

c/o Merle MacDonald, Administrator

City of Toronto

100 Queen Street West

10th Floor West

Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Members of Planning and Growth Management Committee:

Re: Official Plan Five Year Review: Official Plan Amendment to Adopt new Heritage and Public Realm Policies

Agenda Item: TE18.2

We are the lawyers for the Governing Council of the University of Toronto (the "University"). We are writing to set out the University’s objections to certain portions of the Official Plan Amendment to Adopt new Heritage and Public Realm Policies ("Policies") respecting the protection of views of the Ontario Legislative Assembly Building ("the OLA"). We previously submitted comments on behalf of the University to the Toronto and East York Community Council regarding the site specific Official Plan Amendment proposed for the OLA, by way of letter dated September 10, 2012.

For the reasons that follow, the University urges the City to adopt a modified policy that protects the views of the OLA only from College Street and not from Queen Street West as proposed. This modification will have no meaningful impact on the protection afforded to the views of the OLA.

The protected views of the OLA as currently drafted in the Policies will unnecessarily impact the development of the former McLaughlin Planetarium site (90 Queen’s Park Crescent), which has been identified as one of the University’s development sites in the University of Toronto Secondary Plan ("Secondary Plan") and part of a development site at 78, 80 and 84 Queen’s Park Crescent as identified in the University adopted St. George Campus Master Plan. We anticipate that the St. George Campus Master Plan will eventually be incorporated into a new Secondary Plan.
The University and the City have a long history of working co-operatively in ensuring that the City’s planning goals are met while providing sufficient flexibility for the University to meet its development needs. The University would welcome the opportunity to meet with City staff to resolve these concerns.

Yours truly,
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

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