

July 28, 2015

Toronto Preservation Board (Attention: Clerk, Lourdes Bettencourt)
Toronto City Hall, 2nd Floor, West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Proceeding to Plan Phase of the Proposed Historic Yonge Street Heritage Conservation District

Dear Members of the Toronto Preservation Board:

CWNA strongly supports the designation of Yonge Street from College/Carlton Streets to 780 Yonge Street as an HCD. This portion of Yonge Street is possibly the best remaining example of the original small shops of the late 19th century Yonge Street and, as your consultant's report notes, contains fascinating examples of retail, office and living styles capturing changes in Toronto's development. Collectively, they represent a living encyclopedia of Toronto urban life, and should be honoured, preserved and reinvigorated.

The street is under extreme development pressure. In the very block of some of the best examples of low-rise historic retail properties, developers are proposing towers of more than 40 storeys. Without some clear definition of the importance of these buildings as heritage buildings, the residents will have no hope of preserving the history of our community as it relates to the City of Toronto.

CWNA has been involved in this project of Heritage Designation for Historic Yonge Street since 2010, and we request the support of the Toronto Preservation Board to achieve the Historic Yonge Street HCD.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Horberry
President, Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

CC: Tamara Anson-Cartwright, Senior Preservation Coordinator, Heritage Preservation Services
Michael Vidoni, Heritage Planner, Heritage Preservation Services
Councillor Wong-Tam, Ward 27, City of Toronto
David Oikawa, Manager, Downtown District, Planning Services