Monday October 5, 2015

Clerk
Toronto and East York Community Council
2nd Floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

To the attention of Community Council:

On behalf of the 2,500 film technician members of IATSE Local 873, and the greater interest of maintaining and preserving the City’s film and television industry, we are seeking amendments to the existing zoning bylaws with respect to the development of the studio and district lands at 629 Eastern Ave.

Since film production studio operations involve specific requirements and the continued existence of the Revival physical production studio is fundamental to the sustainability of the City’s screen industry, we advocate for the following considerations:

- Understanding that there is a distinction between physical production space and other studio related uses, such as offices and post-production space, and the importance of protecting that physical production space.

- Ensuring sufficient parking, not only for studio employees and tradespeople, but also for production trucks and trailers which require surface parking lots in proximity to physical production space.

- Security is paramount for a studio to be able to continue to attract movie and television productions. This is both for the safety of the actors, the confidential nature of certain productions and for the safety and wellbeing of residents. Fences and establishing a secure perimeter will ensure that only those working on set are provided access to the site.
We ask that you ensure that all the possible and appropriate measures, through this zoning by-law amendment, planning approvals, or other agreements, are put in place to secure the retention and maintenance of the studio uses and enable the continuation of a film industry here at 629 Eastern Avenue. Thank you for your care and consideration in this matter.

Yours

Joe Fraser
Treasurer IATSE Local 873

cc: Gregg Lintern, Director community Planning, East Section
cc: Sandra Kaiser, Studio Centres