

To: Mr. John Tory, Chair of Executive Committee

From: York Entrepreneurship Development Institute (YEDI)

Date: May 19, 2016

Re: Item EX 15.25 Toronto Ward Boundary Review

I am writing you today on behalf of the York Entrepreneurship Development Institute (YEDI) following the report recommendations made by staff for the DUKE Heights BIA to be added in its entirety into a new ward. We feel these changes will have a negative impact on the development of our joint projects and partnership with the BIA. YEDI has developed a working relationship with both York University and the DUKE Heights BIA that are fundamental to our future growth and we feel that it is important for both to remain in the same Ward.

YEDI is a top ranked University Linked Accelerator which operates an educational training institute that provides instruction on business and entrepreneurship for new and innovative small business and social enterprise organizations, to help them become productive pillars in Canadian society. In 2015, YEDI was named the #1 University Linked Accelerator in Ontario and top 3 in North America by UBI Global.

YEDI provides an array of services, including education training, coaching, mentorship, networking opportunities with investors and access to funding. Currently in our third year, YEDI successfully accelerated 135 entrepreneurs and not-for-profit organizations who have presented their ventures to an investor audience, securing millions of dollars in funding and creating thousands of new jobs.

Graduates of YEDI programming may benefit from continued support through the YEDI Business Acceleration Campus (located at 907 Alness Street and pictured below) which offers space and value-added services such as mentorship and access to investor networks.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Best regards,



Marat Ressin, Ph.D
President

YEDI Business Acceleration Campus in relation to the DUKE Heights BIA offices.

