

North York Community Preservation Panel

June 26, 2016

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EX 16.1 Schools as Community Assets: Review and Prioritization of 23 Toronto District School Board Properties

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Executive Committee,

The North York Community Preservation Panel provides this correspondence in strong support of the above noted report's recommendation (3(g) that City Council adopt the following Principle (one of 8) for "Redeveloping School Properties for Strong Communities":

- **that built heritage resources will be evaluated prior to the disposition of a school site;**

and requests that school boards operating in Toronto, the Toronto Lands Corporation, the Ministry of Education, the Community Hubs Secretariat of Ontario and other relevant entities adopt these principles to preserve and maximize community benefit during the disposition of school properties.

School properties in Toronto represent potential heritage assets that have not been assessed for their heritage value. The problems associated with this lack of attention are amply demonstrated in the case of Davisville Public School, which the Toronto Preservation Board tried, at the 11th hour, to designate under the Ontario Heritage Act. In North York the former City of North York conducted an inventory of Modernist properties including numerous schools, which has not been acted on by the school board or by the City

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel

Geoff Kettel
Chair
c.c. Chair, Toronto District School Board
Chair, Toronto Catholic District School Board