

## **Bay Cloverhill Community Association**

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www.baycloverhill.ca

Saturday, May 7, 2016

Toronto and East York Community Council City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 100 Queen Street West Toronto Ontario M5H 2N2

## Re: Demolition of the Heritage Structures on the 1 Bloor West development site: 1-11 Bloor Street West, 768 to 772 Yonge Street and 778 to 784 Yonge Street

Dear Members of the Toronto and East York Community Council:

The Bay Cloverhill Community Association (BCCA) has been horrified and appalled by the desecration of the heritage buildings on the 1 Bloor West development site, namely, 768 to 784 Yonge Street and 1 to 11 Bloor Street West (Stollery's). The token remaining heritage . at 774 and 776 Yonge Street is small comfort when placed beside the losses.

The BCCA has given strong and continuous support to the creation of the Historic Yonge Street HCD since its inception in November of 2011. Our involvement has included the roles of

- Nominator of the Historic Yonge Street area to be named an Heritage Designation District,,
- financial backer by providing the funds to hire the consultant, Dialog Architects
- co-ordinator of the 30 to 35 volunteer researchers for the Study Phase, and
- staunch supporters of the heritage in our community and the heritage in the communities of our neighbouring associations.

The systematic demolition of all but one of the heritage structures on this development site have left us agape, speechless., wondering what has gone wrong with the preservation of our Historic Yonge Street buildings. What could have been done?

The precipitous demolition of Stollery's should be viewed as a hostile action Allowing the 1 Bloor West Mizrahi Development to proceed through the steps of the planning process without any of the limitations of the Freeze is beyond our understanding. What gave him his seeming immunity to the rules of the freeze and the rules of heritage preservation? The subsequent demolition of every other property on the site with the exception of 774-776 Yonge Street is yet another unbelievable breach of the heritage regulations.

The BCCA, as a community, feels that our heritage has been betrayed. We feel that the Mizrahi demolitions of our numerous heritage buildings has indicated an extreme disrespect for heritage values. There is no opportunity to re-think these actions. The heritage is GONE!

The BCCA is at a loss as to how to understand these acts of heritage desecration. We feel that our efforts to preserve our heritage have not been taken seriously and have been belittled. We find it difficult to know where to turn in the City of Toronto for help and guidance on our heritage questions.

We need a way to re-establish our confidence and our heritage footing before we move forward. We are feeling a bit lost.

Respectfully,

## Rick Whitten-Stovall, BCCA President

Cc: Gregg Lintern, Director, Community Planning, Toronto and East York District David Oikawa, Manager, Community Planning, Downtown Section Jaime McEwan, Manager, Community Planning, Midtown Section Oren Tamir, Planner, Community Planning Mary MacDonald, Manager, Heritage Preservation Services Tamara Anson-Cartwright, Senior Co-ordinator, Heritage Preservation Services Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, Ward 27, Toronto Centre-Rosedale