

November 29, 2016

Members of the Exhibition Place Official Plan Amendment Subcommittee  
A Subcommittee of the Toronto and East York Community Council  
City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 2M2

Dear Councillors:

Subject: **Exhibition Place Official Plan Amendment**

As long-standing tenants and users of the historic Exhibition Place site, we the undersigned, care very much about its future.

As you embark on the important Exhibition Place Official Plan amendment process, we respectfully request that the following considerations be a central focus of your review. We ask that the future of Exhibition Place embrace the following matters:

#### **Future Business & Development**

- Limit future development on the site to preserve green space and event space.
- That any new development not be in conflict with the business and activities of the current users of the site or of the residential neighbourhoods surrounding it.
- Ensure that Exhibition Place continues to focus on maintaining and growing its trade and consumer show business together with its special event and festival business, and that only development which augments and supports this business strategy is considered.

#### **The Community**

- Embrace and build upon Exhibition Place's role as a community gathering place and a space for celebration.
- Continue to explore the potential for Exhibition Place and Ontario Place to become an organic whole joined by land bridges, in order to better connect the surrounding neighbourhoods with these two sites and the waterfront.

#### **Infrastructure and Transit**

- Work to ensure that this vibrant space is properly supported by effective transit infrastructure and the necessary parking inventory.
- Also ensure that Exhibition Place is always maintained in a state of good repair in terms of the up-keep of the grounds, its buildings, and the state of its roadways, sidewalks, and asphalt.

### Heritage of the Grounds & its Buildings

- Preserve all the heritage buildings on the site including those that would now be classified as mid-century architecture through public/private partnerships.
- Continue to pursue tenants for heritage buildings to offset public financial resources required to preserve these buildings.
- Insist that each of the tenants of these heritage buildings have a concrete and comprehensive plan as to how they will maintain and conserve these buildings at the highest level.

### Green Space

- Safeguard all the current green spaces on the grounds; ensure that these public spaces be protected and preserved as the very minimum amount of green space available on the site.
- Maintain all space currently allocated for outdoor event parking but also explore the potential for outdoor parking lots to be transformed into community green spaces that sit on top of underground parking inventory.

### Western Waterfront

- It is essential that the amendments made to the Exhibition Place Official Plan not be made in a “vacuum” but are part of a robust and larger vision for Toronto’s Western Waterfront.

We are all very inspired and excited by the potential for this property. We look forward to continuing to be actively engaged stakeholders on the future of Exhibition Place. **As indicated in the report to this subcommittee by City Community Planning, there are several City studies, initiatives and the Board of Governors Strategic Plan (2017-2019) that are already currently underway. We ask that no official plan amendment move forward until the on-going studies and initiatives report out in 2017, so they can be considered fully in the official plan amendment process.**

We look forward to discussing these matters with you, your colleagues, Exhibition Place Board of Governors, and City staff in further detail through the various engagement opportunities.

Respectfully,



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CEO



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Managing Director



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