



September 30, 2017

12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Attention: Marilyn Toft
Email: clerk@toronto.ca

RE: PG22.5 Inclusion on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register - Midtown in Focus - Phase 01: Main Street Properties (Ward 16, 22, 25, 26)

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of City Council,

This is to express our strong support for the recommended listing of the 258 properties with potential cultural heritage value or interest located on main streets (Yonge, Mount Pleasant, Bayview, and Eglinton) in the Yonge-Eglinton Growth Centre, on the City of Toronto Heritage Register.

The “main street” commercial areas in the Yonge-Eglinton Growth Centre and adjacent areas are under enormous pressure for re-development. These same areas have significant character and charm which is eroding and at risk of loss.

Residents across Toronto have been outraged by “as of right” demolition of commercial properties having obvious cultural heritage value and interest, such as occurred with the BMO Building at 2444 Yonge Street in January, 2017. Listing would ensure that properties such as this would undergo prior assessment as to whether or not they deserve to be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, and their heritage attributes retained and conserved. This change does not affect the legal rights of the property owner or affect their ability to renovate or maintain their property.

The public meetings held in conjunction with Midtown in Focus have confirmed strong public interest and support for preservation of the character of the main streets (“villages”). Batch listing to allow prior assessment in case of demolition would be an appropriate way of ensuring this.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

[REDACTED]
Toronto, Ontario

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cathie Macdonald
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

[REDACTED]
Toronto, ON

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cc: Gregg Lintern, Acting Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division
Mary MacDonald, Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services
Joe Nanos, Director, Community Planning, North District
Mount Pleasant Village, Bayview-Leaside, Yonge Midtown, Eglinton Way BIAs

The Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents' associations, include at least 170,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents' associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not *whether* Toronto will grow, but *how*. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.