

## North York Community Council

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**From:** Geoff Kettel <gkettel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 1, 2017 12:43 PM  
**To:** Francine Adamo; North York Community Council; Councillor Augimeri; Councillor Colle; Councillor Jaye Robinson; Councillor Shiner; Councillor Burnside; Councillor Carmichael Greb; Councillor Carroll; Councillor Pasternak; Councillor Fillion; Councillor Minnan-Wong; Tom Rakocevic  
**Cc:** Joe Nanos; Mary (Planning) MacDonald; Sherry Pedersen; Cathie Ferguson  
**Subject:** NY22.9 Preliminary Report - ZBA and Draft Plan of Subdn. Applns - 901 Lawrence Avenue West, 3050 and 3010 Dufferin Street and 40 Playfair Avenue  
**Attachments:** NYCC May 2017 901 Lawrence Ave West columbus centre.pdf; 901 Lawrence ave May 11 2017.docx

Dear Francine

Attached is a letter submitted to NYCC in regard to this item

Geoff Kettel  
Chair NYCCP

## North York Community Preservation Panel

May 2, 2017

North York Civic Centre  
Main floor, 5100 Yonge St.  
Toronto, ON M2N 5V7  
Attention: Francine Adamo, Council Secretariat

Dear Chair Maria Augimeri and Members, North York Community Council

**RE: NY22.9 Preliminary Report - Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications - 901 Lawrence Avenue West, 3050 and 3010 Dufferin Street and 40 Playfair Avenue**

*"The Columbus Event Centre has been producing extraordinary events with distinct Italian flair in the city of Toronto... situated on 4 acres that boasts Mediterranean gardens, water fountains, gazebos and ample parking". (Villa Charities web site)*

This application proposes to "revitalize" the Columbus Centre complex by demolishing and replacing the Columbus Centre, the Carrier Art Gallery, the Dante Alighieri Academy, a day care facility, and other services on the site. The Columbus Centre's main building and rotunda, unique in many ways, were built between 1978 and 1980 as an extension to the old St Mary's School for Girls which was built in 1949 as a reform school for "fallen girls".

The Columbus Centre has served as the heart of the Italian Canadian community for two generations. It has hosted events for numerous celebrity visitors to Canada, from the Italian President Alfano in 1996, to the coach of the 1982 World Cup champion Italian soccer team in 1982-83, and several Canadian Prime Ministers including most recently, Trudeau in 2015, and Harper in 2011.

This project proposes "revolutionary" change but fails to assess the cultural heritage values of the existing property; it has not considered evolutionary change that would celebrate and potentially re-purpose some of the existing cultural assets of the property.

On a matter of Community Council privilege, we note with concern that a Community Consultation Meeting has already been scheduled

for May 11, 2017 (see notice attached) apparently pre-empting North York Community Council's decision in this matter (recommendation Number 1 of the staff report).

We strongly recommend:

- that North York Community Council defer consideration of the Preliminary Report on the Columbus Centre Application pending submission by the Applicant of a Heritage Assessment Report that is acceptable to Heritage Preservation Services.

Respectfully submitted,

*Geoff Kettel*

Geoff Kettel  
Chair

c.c. Joe Nanos, Director, Community Planning, North York District  
Cathie Ferguson, Planner, Community Planning, North York District  
Mary MacDonald, Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services  
Sherry Petersen, Coordinator, Heritage Preservation Services

# TORONTO Community Consultation Meeting

The City of Toronto holds public consultations as one way to engage residents in the life of their city. We invite you to get involved.

## Planning application for: 901 Lawrence Avenue West, 3010 & 3050 Dufferin Street and 40 Playfair Avenue

The City is holding a Community Consultation meeting where you can learn more about this application ask questions and share your comments.

Details are as follows:

**Date:** Thursday, May 11, 2017

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 7:00p.m. Open House, 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. Meeting

**Place:** Yorkdale Secondary School, Cafetorium, 38 Orfus Road

### Proposal

The applicant has applied for a zoning by-law amendment to permit a joint-use, 4-storey (19.8 metre) high, building on a portion of the site which will replace both the existing Columbus Centre and Dante Alighieri Academy Secondary School, currently located adjacent the south end of this site. A related application for draft plan of subdivision approval proposes to delineate the development site for the joint-use building and provide a new road to serve the proposed building. You can view a copy of the Preliminary Report providing background information at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.NY22.9>.

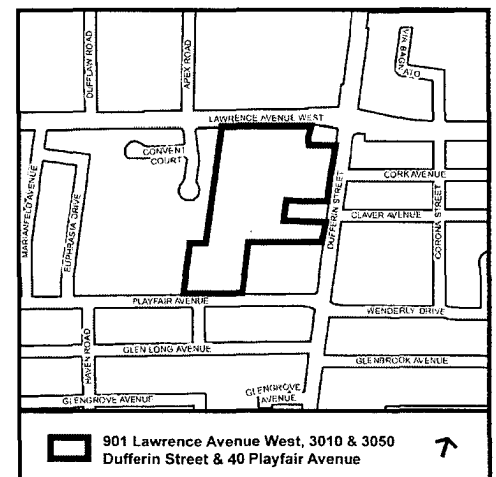
To speak to the planner directly, contact Cathie Ferguson, at (416) 395-7117 or [Cathie.Ferguson@toronto.ca](mailto:Cathie.Ferguson@toronto.ca). You may mail your comments to the planner at North York District, 5100 Yonge St Toronto ON, M2N 5V7.

You may also contact Councillor Josh Colle, Ward 15, at (416) 392-4027.

#### Notice to correspondents:

Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Our public meeting locations are wheelchair/mobility device accessible. Other reasonable accommodation or assistive services for persons with disabilities may be provided with adequate notice. Please contact Cathie Ferguson, at (416) 395-7117 or [Cathie.Ferguson@toronto.ca](mailto:Cathie.Ferguson@toronto.ca) with your request. The City of Toronto is committed to taking the necessary steps to insure compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.



For more information visit our website at Information [www.toronto.ca/planning/developmentapplications](http://www.toronto.ca/planning/developmentapplications)

