TORONTO

Councillor Josh Colle

Ward 15 Eglinton Lawrence

100 Queen Street West,
2nd Floor Suite A20
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-4027
Fax: 416-392-4191
councillor_colle@toronto.ca
joshcolle.ca
@JoshColle



July 9, 2018

Toronto Preservation Board
Heritage Preservation Services
100 Queen St. W.
17th Floor, East Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Toronto Preservation Board:

Re: Columbus Centre (Item PB36.3)

I'm writing to you in my capacity as the City Councillor for Ward 15, Eglinton Lawrence, to express my support for the inclusion of the Columbus Centre (901 Lawrence Avenue West) on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register, at the Toronto Preservation Board meeting on July 12th 2018.

I would like to commend the City staff for the hard work and comprehensive research they have done on the report, and I fully support all their recommendations. As the local Councillor serving the area where the Columbus Centre is located, I can speak on behalf of an overwhelming majority of residents that also agree with the findings of the report.

The Columbus Centre represents the social and cultural heart of the Italian community. Originally intended as a place of refuge for young Italian women and later for older Italians, the Columbus Centre has expanded its outreach to a diversity of age groups and ethno-cultural groups. The report's recommendations accurately recognize how essential and significant the Columbus Centre is for many Italian Canadians, and reflects the input and advocacy of many residents who have joined our fight for its preservation.

For its legacy as a gathering site for the local community and Italian Canadians across the region, I hope that the Toronto Preservation Board adopts the recommendations in the report to designate the Columbus Centre as a Toronto Heritage site.

Sincerely,

Josh Colle
City Councillor
Ward 15, Eglinton Lawrence