TE34.145.21



June 27, 2018

OCAD UNIVERSITY 100 McCAUL STREET TORONTO, ONTARIO M5T 1W1

> T. 416 977 6000 F. 416 977 6006

Members of Toronto-East York Community Council c/o Ms. Ellen Devlin Committee Administrator Toronto-East York Community Council Via email: <u>tevcc@toronto.ca</u>

Re: TE34.145 Traffic Control Signals – Queen Street West and McCaul Street

To Members:

I am writing in my capacity as the Vice-Provost, Students & International at OCAD University to support the staff recommendations in TE35.145 – Traffic Control Signals at Queen Street West and McCaul Street. These signals are critically important to the safety of our students as they navigate daily between our buildings north and south of this busy intersection.

OCAD University has expanded significantly in recent years, in terms of student enrolment and our physical footprint in downtown Toronto. We now have over 4,500 undergraduate and graduate students and occupy nine buildings stretching from Dundas and McCaul to Richmond and Duncan. Most significantly, we now house the majority of our student services – including Admissions, Financial Aid and our Health and Wellness Centre – at our 230 Richmond St. W. building, and hold regular classes in our building at 205 Richmond. This means that hundreds of students traverse Queen Street daily as they move between our main academic building at 100 McCaul and the Richmond St. locations.

Students are busy people. They are often stressed, distracted or carrying large projects. While many walk to the corner of Queen and St. Patrick, where there is a traffic signal, and then back to Duncan, many do not. This is simply a question of spontaneously weighing the risks of crossing at an unsignalized intersection against the extra time and effort required to get to the signalized crossing. They do so at all hours as our classes run until 9:30 pm, and at all times of the year.

A traffic control signal at Queen and McCaul has been a priority for our educational community for several years and we strongly urge you to vote in favour of the staff recommendation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deanne Fisher Vice-Provost, Students & International