



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Meric S. Gertler, CM, FRSC, FBA, FAcSS  
*President*

March 4, 2020

Councillor Gord Perks  
Chair, Toronto East York Community Council  
Toronto City Hall, 2nd floor, West Tower  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Re: Proposal for Ursula Franklin Street**

Dear Councillor Perks and committee members:

I am writing on behalf of the University of Toronto in support of the proposal to recognize the late Dr. Ursula Franklin by renaming a street on our St. George campus. Dr. Franklin made an extraordinary contribution to the University and to Canada as one of our country's most accomplished scientists and as a renowned feminist and peace activist.

Dr. Franklin joined the University of Toronto's Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science in 1967. She became a full professor in 1973, and went on to pioneer the field of archaeometry. She published more than 70 scholarly papers and major contributions to books on the structure and properties of metals and alloys, and the history and social impact of technology. She was later appointed U of T's first University Professor, the highest academic designation offered by the University in recognition of extraordinary scholarly achievement and pre-eminence in a particular field of knowledge.

Ursula Franklin's career has been recognized in innumerable ways. She has received honorary degrees from more than 20 universities, and was appointed Companion of the Order of Canada and Member of the Order of Ontario. She received the Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Person's Case for advancing the equality of girls and women in Canada. Notably, in Toronto, Professor Franklin received the Award of Merit for the City of Toronto in 1982, mainly for her contribution to neighbourhood planning.

For these reasons, I am pleased to support the proposed effort to celebrate the remarkable legacy of Ursula Franklin by re-naming a street in her honour.

Sincerely,

Meric S. Gertler  
President