

April 22, 2021

Gregg Lintern, Chief Planner and Executive Director
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Lintern:

Re: Christie's Planning Study – Policy re School Board Shared Use of Public Park

As you know, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the City of Toronto, including their agencies Toronto Lands Corporation (TLC) and CreateTO, have been working collaboratively to build complete communities in the City of Toronto. At the Planning and Housing Committee meeting on April 21, 2021, Councillor Wong-Tam and Councillor Fletcher asked City staff regarding the last minute insertion of the words “City’s sole discretion” into policy 8.8 of the Christie’s Secondary Plan.

Prior to the Council meeting on May 5, 2021, could you please provide us with examples of other policies in the City’s official plan where it specifies that the shared use of public facilities is at the sole discretion of the City. The City’s Official Plan and various secondary plans (including Yonge-Eglinton, Railway Lands West, Etobicoke Centre, Lawrence-Allen, Central Waterfront) have policies that address the shared use of City and school board owned parks, open space, and facilities. TLC staff have found no reference to the sharing being “at the City’s sole discretion” or “at the school board’s sole discretion” in any policies anywhere else in the City. In our view, the inclusion of the language “sole discretion” would undermine the intent of the policy, which is to encourage sharing of public assets to the greatest extent possible.

The deliberate inclusion of this language in the Christie’s Secondary Plan and, again to our knowledge, in no other location in the City, suggests a lack of interest by the City to approach this matter in an open and collaborative manner in support of a school at the Christie’s site. If the City is genuine in its interest in sharing the public park space with the school board at Christie’s site, its Secondary Plan policy should appropriately reflect that intent through positive and reinforcing language that encourages sharing.

TLC hereby requests that the language regarding the “City’s sole discretion” be deleted from policy 8.8 to allow for the policy to reflect the positive relationship between the City and TDSB, as we continue to share many assets across Toronto to the benefit of students and the broader local community.

Yours truly,



Daryl Sage
Chief Executive Officer
Toronto Lands Corporation



- c. Members of Planning and Housing Committee
Janie Romoff, General Manager, PFR, City of Toronto
Kerri Voumvakis, Director, SIPA, City of Toronto
Bianca MV Bielski, Senior Manager, Land Use Planning, TLC
Yvonne Choi, Manager, Land Use Planning, TLC

Sarah Phipps, Project Manager, SIPA, City of Toronto
Ann-Marie Nasr, Director, PFR, City of Toronto
Anita Cook, Executive Manager, Real Estate & Leasing, TLC
Peter Quinn, Legal Counsel, TLC
Amar Singh, Senior Land Use Planner, TLC

