

March 2, 2021

By email to phc@toronto.ca

Planning and Housing Committee City of Toronto 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

## Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

## <u>Re: Agenda item PH 21.13 Request to Province on Status and Timing of Funding Commitments for new schools</u> <u>in the Central Waterfront</u>

We are writing on behalf of the York Quay Neighbourhood Association (YQNA) to express strong support for Councillor Cressy's motion respecting school funding in the Central Waterfront. Currently, elementary school aged children must be bused to schools outside of the waterfront neighbourhood. This is an entirely unacceptable situation and has been raised repeatedly as a concern at meetings at various levels of government including the City of Toronto and Waterfront Toronto.

The City and provincial policy of encouraging densification for families within the developing waterfront precincts cannot be successful without families knowing that elementary education will be available within these new neighbourhoods. As development along the waterfront intensifies and continues to promote family lifestyles with affordable housing and larger condominium units, the lack of progress on an elementary school within the waterfront neighbourhood is extremely disappointing. From the outset, a development lot has to be reserved for an elementary school to serve families with young children.

We are very pleased to support the recommendation from Councillor Cressy that City Council press the Province on an accelerated time frame to approve funding for local schools. Yours truly,

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Carolyn Johnson Co-chair of YQNA

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Angelo Bertolas Co-chair of YQNA

cc. Councillor Joe Cressy, Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, MPP Chris Glover