



March 2, 2021

Citizens for the Old Town /  
Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

Corktown Residents & Business  
Association

Distillery Historic District

Dixon Hall

Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation

Friends of Corktown Common

Goederham & Worts Neighbourhood  
Association

Little Trinity Anglican Church

St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BI

St. Lawrence Neighbourhood  
Association

Bring Back the Don

By email to [phc@toronto.ca](mailto:phc@toronto.ca)

Planning and Housing Committee  
City of Toronto

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

**Re: Agenda item PH 21.13 Request to Province on Status and  
Timing of Funding Commitments for new schools in the Central  
Waterfront**

We are writing on behalf of the West Don Lands Committee, a coalition of community-based resident, business, service, environmental and heritage organizations to express strong support for Councillor Cressy's motion respecting school funding in the Central Waterfront.

Since 1997 WDLC members have been advocating for the revitalization of the West Don Lands into a vibrant complete community.

Many elements of the community vision for the WDL have come into being, but the one glaring disappointment has been the lack of progress on an elementary school within the neighbourhood.

From the outset, a development lot has been reserved for an elementary school to serve families with young children. To further support the creation of a family friendly neighbourhood, Corktown Common, Underpass Park and the Front Street promenade have been designed with innovative play areas. In addition, there are already three affordable housing buildings that accommodate families with children, three more affordable developments that meet Toronto's family positive guidelines are being built by Dream/Kilmer/Tricon and the private market condo and rental developments similarly have conformed to the city objectives of including unit sizes that accommodate families.


Right now, elementary school aged children must be bused to schools outside of the neighbourhood. This is an entirely unacceptable situation and has been raised repeatedly as a concern at West Don Lands Committee meetings. 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.

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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cc. Councillor Joe Cressy  
Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam