



October 18, 2021

Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Attn: Nancy Martins, Secretariat

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee:

Re: Item PH27.6

**The Future of Yonge and Eglinton's Canada Square: Supporting Midtown Existing and Future Residents' Quality of Life - Feasibility Review
City of Toronto Wards 8,12,15
TCDSB Trustee Wards 9,11**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) has reviewed the Future of Yonge and Eglinton's Canada Square - Feasibility Review Report, scheduled for consideration by the Planning and Housing Committee on October 18, 2021.

The TCDSB has experienced significant enrolment growth and pressure in Midtown schools, as triggered by the intensity and volume of local development activity over the past decade. In response to this trend, the TCDSB has continued to pursue accommodation opportunities, as well as, consistently requested accommodation notification signage on new development in the Yonge-Eglinton area due to overutilized local TCDSB schools.

The TCDSB is a member of the Midtown Working Group, including having worked towards the Groups vision for the area. This vision includes six key priorities and contemplates the implementation of each within the redevelopment of Canada Square.

Throughout the process, the TCDSB has worked closely with the City to provide input on "*Priority 3: New School*", which examines the need for school accommodation to serve students in JK to Grade 8 (Elementary Panel) in Midtown. Through correspondence with the City, the TCDSB is satisfied with the collaborative language included within the report, namely:

Exploring opportunities to collaborate with the development community and the City to design alternative and innovative school models, including schools in the base of a tower. Unlike traditional stand-alone school sites which can develop on its own time frame, a decision and agreement to include a school in a tower must be made at the same time a developer is seeking City planning approvals.



The TCDSB requires a school size of 500 pupil places serving grades JK – 8 and has developed guidelines to incorporate school use into a podium on the first 2-3 floors of the development. Dedicated play space for kindergarten and primary grades can be part of the building structure and additional play space can be managed through controlled access. This school building in addition to a future projected rebuild of St Monica Catholic School to the northeast would satisfy TCDSB enrolment requirements for the Midtown area.

Through this language, the TCDSB continues to advocate for Catholic school accommodation needs in the Yonge-Eglinton area, is supportive of the vision of the Midtown Working Group and will continue to work with the City and Oxford Properties to strengthen the Catholic elementary school presence in this ever growing and thriving area of Toronto.

Should you require additional information regarding our comments, please contact Tomasz Oltarzewski, Supervisor of Planning at tomasz.oltarzewski@tcdsb.org

Regards,

Michael Loberto
Superintendent, Planning and Development Services
Toronto Catholic District School Board

Cc: Norm Di Pasquale – Ward 9 TCDSB Trustee
Angela Kennedy – Ward 11 TCDSB Trustee
Erica Pallotta – Senior Coordinator, Development Services
Barbara Leporati – Senior Coordinator, Planning Services
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