



**PARKDALE
QUEEN WEST
Community
Health Centre**

www.pqwchc.org

Attn: City of Toronto Executive Council
Re: Item number EX31.4

I am writing in today on behalf of Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre. I am the Harm Reduction Outreach Coordinator at our Queen West 168 Bathurst location working alongside a dedicated and dynamic team which works to address the health, social and economic disparities we see within the Toronto Central West Community.

We whole-heartedly support the motion brought forth today to expropriate the building at 214-230 Sherbourne St.

Coming from an overwhelmingly gentrified neighborhood such as Queen West we have seen the devastating effects of mass displacement of community. This has been particularly evident for our indigenous community members which have long called the Bathurst and Queen area the Meeting Place far before it became 'The Entertainment District.'

We at PQWCHC have witnessed firsthand the loss of community to mass condominium developments which rather than enhance community now offers exclusion and replaces family homes with empty investment properties. Housing is now viewed as a financial opportunity to further enrich the already prosperous while ignoring the basic fact that housing is a human right for all people.

With the average condominium price now reaching over \$710,000 (\$1.095 mil if including all property types) at the closing of the fourth quarter in 2021 relinquishing 214-230 Sherbourne will ensure there is no place for existing community members receiving an income below \$205,400 (CanWise financial, Dec 2021.)

This is a tangible opportunity for City Council to ensure action towards the 2020-2030 HousingTO Action Plan that cannot be overlooked in such a critical and unprecedented time such as now.

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