

1631 QUEEN STREET E – TESS UPDATE

As a result of the redevelopment of the City owned property at 1631 Queen Street East, the Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS) Beaches Office will be required to be relocated. The current location of the Beaches Office is not ideal for their business operations, and there is a preference by TESS to be located North-West of the existing location in order to better service clientele and mitigate anticipated increased pressure on 111 Wellesley office as a result of Metro Hall office being relocated to Dufferin Mall (260 Adelaide Project).

TESS has identified a need for a new office requirement for 13,000 sq.ft (70 FTE, 50% work from home) which is a substantially smaller footprint than the existing Beaches Office of 19,758 sq.ft (60 FTE). TESS and CreateTO are committed to a future state whereby all TESS offices are to be located entirely within City of Toronto owned property, and to move out of any 3rd party leased space. CreateTO, working with its partners in Corporate Real Estate Management (CREM) is hoping to leverage City owned property not only for this relocation, but also for all future relocations of TESS space and will be working with TESS over the next year on a plan to prioritize the movement out of leased space and into City property with a focus on space optimization through co-location of City space with other Divisions, Agencies and Corporations. This plan will be brought back to a future meeting of the CreateTO Board for endorsement.

In the interim, CreateTO and CREM will continue to work with TESS to identify a new location for the Beaches office with a site to be identified by end of Q2 2022.