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June 28, 2022

To: Toronto and East York Community Council (TEYCC)

Re: TE 34.8 - University of Toronto St George Campus Secondary Plan – Official Plan Amendment Application – Final report

I write on behalf of the Grange Community Association (GCA). The GCA is a long standing member of the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) for the University of Toronto. We have worked closely with the Harbord Village Residents Association (HCRA), the Annex Residents Association (ARA), the Huron Sussex Residents Organization (HSRO) and Bay Cloverhill Community Association (BCCA).

We have attended several meetings about the proposed Secondary Plan and agree that many improvements have been made as a result of these consultations. The GCA agrees with the issues identified in the letter of concern from the HVRA and ARA. These are: Queen's Park, Heritage, Open Space, Indigenous recognition and Monetization of Institutional Assets.

A significant issue remains: the treatment of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) and the Lillian Massey Building, both of which are at the south corners of Bloor and Queen's Park. I

The ARA and HVRA have posed this question in their letter to you:

"The issue is simple: do Lillian Massey and the ROM belong to a Bloor St. planning regime, or should the buildings be included in the Queen's Park character area as gateways to the heritage precinct?"

We also note that Victoria University in their June 24, 2022 letter to the ARA has endorsed the replacement wording for Attachment OPA – Part One:

Bloor Street West Character Area

Replace Section 5.11 (d) with the following:

'The south side of the intersection of Bloor Street West and Queen's Park, is unique in that it is on the boundary of different character areas. Commercial uses in this area respond to the Bloor Street Character Area and at the same time they include significant low-scale heritage institutional buildings (Lillian Massey and the heritage portion of the ROM) which must remain without additional development on the footprint of these buildings. This will reinforce and enhance this important and sensitive gateway location.

Transition to taller elements and generally higher scale are permitted elsewhere along Bloor Street West.

This protection will preserve the Queen's Park Character Area with its generous parks and open spaces forming the cultural heritage precinct.'

Queen's Park Character Area

Add to Section 5.16

(k) 'The institutional buildings, Lillian Massey and the Royal Ontario Museum, are an important northern gateway to Queen's Park.

We urge the TEYCC to support the changes presented by the ARA and HVRA to the draft OPA for the Secondary Plan.

Ceta Ramkhalawansingh,

Hon. President

Grange Community Association.