



June 25th, 2024

To: City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street W.,
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

For: Distribution to Council

Sent: via e-mail

Re: Item no. MM19.25 – An update on Work to Protect the Science Centre and Support Thorncliffe and Flemingdon Park – by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside

Dear Mayor Chow and Councillors,

My name is Natasha Krickhan Architect, OAA and I live in Beaches East York, in Councillor Brad Bradford's riding. I am also a member of the Toronto Society of Architects.

I am writing in support of Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside's member motion no. MM19.25. As a reminder, the Councillors recommend that:

1. City Council request the City Manager, in consultation with appropriate City Divisions and Agencies, to report to the July 16, 2024, meeting of the Executive Committee with an update regarding their work on the future of the Ontario Science Centre, including:
 - a. provincial requirements, if any, in the lease with the City to operate the Ontario Science Centre, or other public-facing attraction at the Don Mills and Eglinton site;
 - b. the feasibility of the City operating the Science Centre at its current location, including an assessment of potential revenues from event rentals; and
 - c. an analysis of the November 29, 2023 Provincial business case of the Ontario Science Centre relocation and the December 6, 2023, the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario Value-for-Money Audit: Science Centres (2023), which evaluated the November business case.

Additionally, for Council's consideration, I would recommend that the following items be considered:

1. That a third party consultant be hired to study the negative environmental impact to the City of Toronto of demolishing the building in terms of the embodied carbon that would be released.
2. That the result of the study be reviewed for its conformance or non-conformance with any existing City of Toronto green building standards or other City standards.
3. That the Federal government be approached by the City to determine the feasibility of the Feds purchasing the Ontario Science Centre from the Province and funding the required rehabilitation work. Additionally that it enter into an agreement with the City of Toronto to allow the city to operate a rehabilitated Science Centre in whole or part.
4. That City Council consider allocating funds to host a public design charrette with a program developed in conjunction with the community. Also, that air rights above and around the building be used to develop a variety of housing types and solutions

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Natasha Krickhan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light grey rectangular background.

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