

November 27, 2024

Regarding: 307 Sherbourne Street, application to amend plan from 15 storeys to 18 storeys

Hello, I am Tina Svensson, the Director of Operations at Wellesley Institute. Wellesley Institute is located next door to 307 Sherbourne – on Gerrard Street. We are a think tank – focused on improving health and health equity in the Greater Toronto Area.

We purchased our property – two Victoria townhouses – in 2018 and converted it into office and collaboration space for our close to 20 staff.

We bought here – in this neighbourhood – because we wanted to return to our roots – where the former Wellesley Hospital was located. Wellesley Institute was created after the hospital closed in 1998.

What was first to be a 9-storey building when we bought our property has since then become a 15- and now a proposed 18-storey building. This is far out of alignment with the character of this special, heritage neighbourhood. Double the size.

While we support rental housing and student housing, we believe 18 stories is too tall.

We are also concerned that if this is approved, many more buildings in this neighbourhood will be built to the same height – or higher.

These buildings would overshadow – and overpower – this unique community.

There are significant impacts on neighbourhood density, noise, sunlight, traffic and pollution.

For this reason, we feel that low rise buildings are the way forward for this area,

Thank you and please feel free to contact myself if you have any questions,

Tina Svensson

Director of Operations, Wellesley Institute