

June 27, 2025

Toronto Preservation Board  
c/o City Clerks Office  
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: **PB33.3** - 123 Garratt Boulevard-Inclusion on the Heritage Register

Dear Madame Chair and members:

As a local resident and treasurer of the North York Community Preservation Panel (NYCPP), I would like to express my strong support of the staff recommendation to include the buildings at 123 Garratt Boulevard on the City's Heritage Register.

The subject property contains the former complex of the prominent Canadian aircraft manufacturer, de Havilland of Canada. It was one of Canada's leading centres of high-tech engineering and innovation. de Havilland's Guided Missile Division was formed in these buildings in 1954. "STOL" (Short Take Off and Landing) was pioneered at this location. It was Canada's base for the world's 5<sup>th</sup> largest aerospace industry. It is also connected to the beginning of the space technology industry. When the Avro Arrow was cancelled, the division was renamed the Special Products Division and developed the STEM antenna for satellite and spacecraft use. The division later built the structure and antennas of the Alouette satellite that in 1963 established Canada as the 3<sup>rd</sup> nation in space. When de Havilland bought Avro Canada, the Special Products Division merged with Avro's Special Products Applied Research (SPAR Aerospace) and, under contract to NASA, developed the "Canadarm". SPAR Aerospace became Canada's foremost space company with the "Canadarm" used on the Hubble Space Telescope and several Space Shuttle missions.

As a proud local resident and heritage preservationist, I would be pleased to see 123 Garratt Boulevard listed on the City's Heritage Register.

Yours truly,

  
Rosanna Seca-laboni (Treasurer, NYCPP)