

June 22, 2026

Re: 2026.IE30.8 - Queen's Park North Donation - Concept Plan Update Report

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council,

I am a member of the Annex Residents Association (ARA), one of seven residents' associations supporting the efforts of the Friends of Queens Park North (FoQPN). Until recently I was a member of the ARA Planning and Development Committee. Before retiring, I was a practicing architect - Montgomery Sisam Architects - for over forty years and a member of the City of Toronto Design Review Panel for ten years.

It is my understanding that you will be reviewing the staff report of June 8 on the redevelopment of Queens Park North which was prepared for the June 10 meeting of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. Attached is the concept plan regarding the current state of the proposal after many months of work. It includes no dimensions and has not been shared with the public until the publication of the report, two working days before City Council. The staff report includes, as part of the program for the park redevelopment, a 140 seat café (40 seats inside and 100 seats outside) represented on this diagram as a bubbled circle. City staff at the June 10 meeting felt that the café would not pose a threat to the health of the trees. This view however was based on the very incomplete and undeveloped information at hand. With respect to the café, the following information was not available even though this information is absolutely necessary in order to evaluate its impact on the existing trees and the character and ambiance of Queens Park North.

1. Scaled plan drawings of the café and support spaces.
2. Drawings illustrating the infrastructure required to support the delivery of food and other supplies, likely in the form of extensive paved area to accommodate delivery vehicles and their turnaround space.
3. Drawings indicating the infrastructure required for waste removal. Is it private or city contracted removal?
4. Infrastructure for site services (water, sewer, power.....) and the location of such.
5. Construction impact, staging area, vehicular access.....
6. Scaled drawing of the outdoor eating area.
7. Fire truck access including turnaround space.

The process over the last many months has been disingenuous. At the urging of FoQPN and the City of Toronto Design Review Panel, a Forest Management Plan (FMP) was undertaken. The drawing shown to the Design Review Panel is also attached. It is no more than a squiggle diagram. To date, the design adjustments resulting from the FMP have only been minor tweaks. Virtually none of the major concerns raised by FoQPN have been addressed. More detailed drawings that have existed for some time have been withheld from FoQPN and the public creating a feeling of profound mistrust. For true public engagement regarding the café it would

be appropriate to show options for consideration - options such as no café, a café reduced in size and/or a relocated café. Instead, the same overall plan with minor tweaks has been recycled, seemingly a fait accompli.

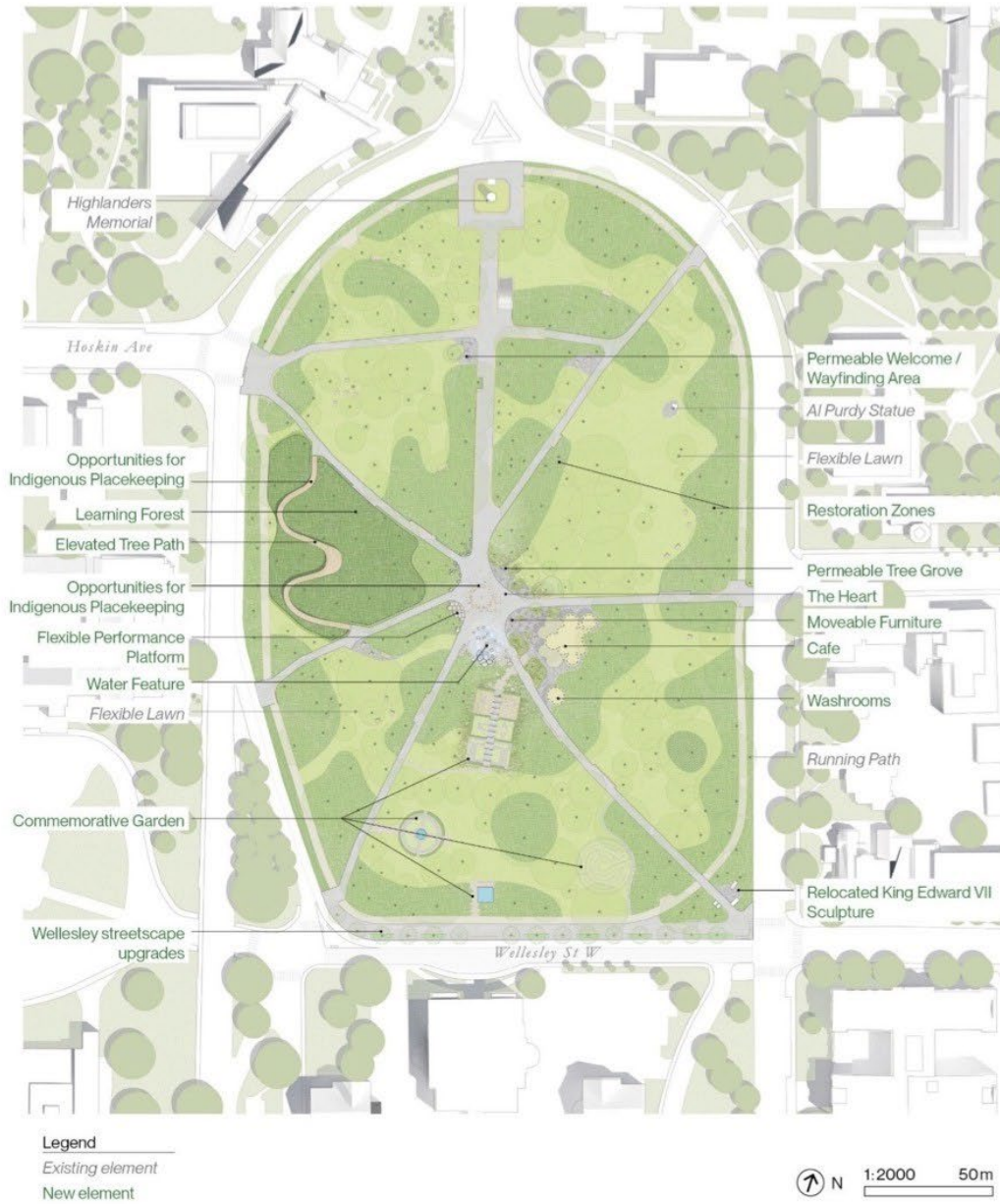
The 140 seat café in the middle of Queens Park North fundamentally changes the nature of the park. The impact of this café represents a significant threat to the health of the existing trees, the 'green oasis' and the character and ambiance of Queen's Park North.

Yours Sincerely,

David Sisam

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Appendix 2 - Concept Plan



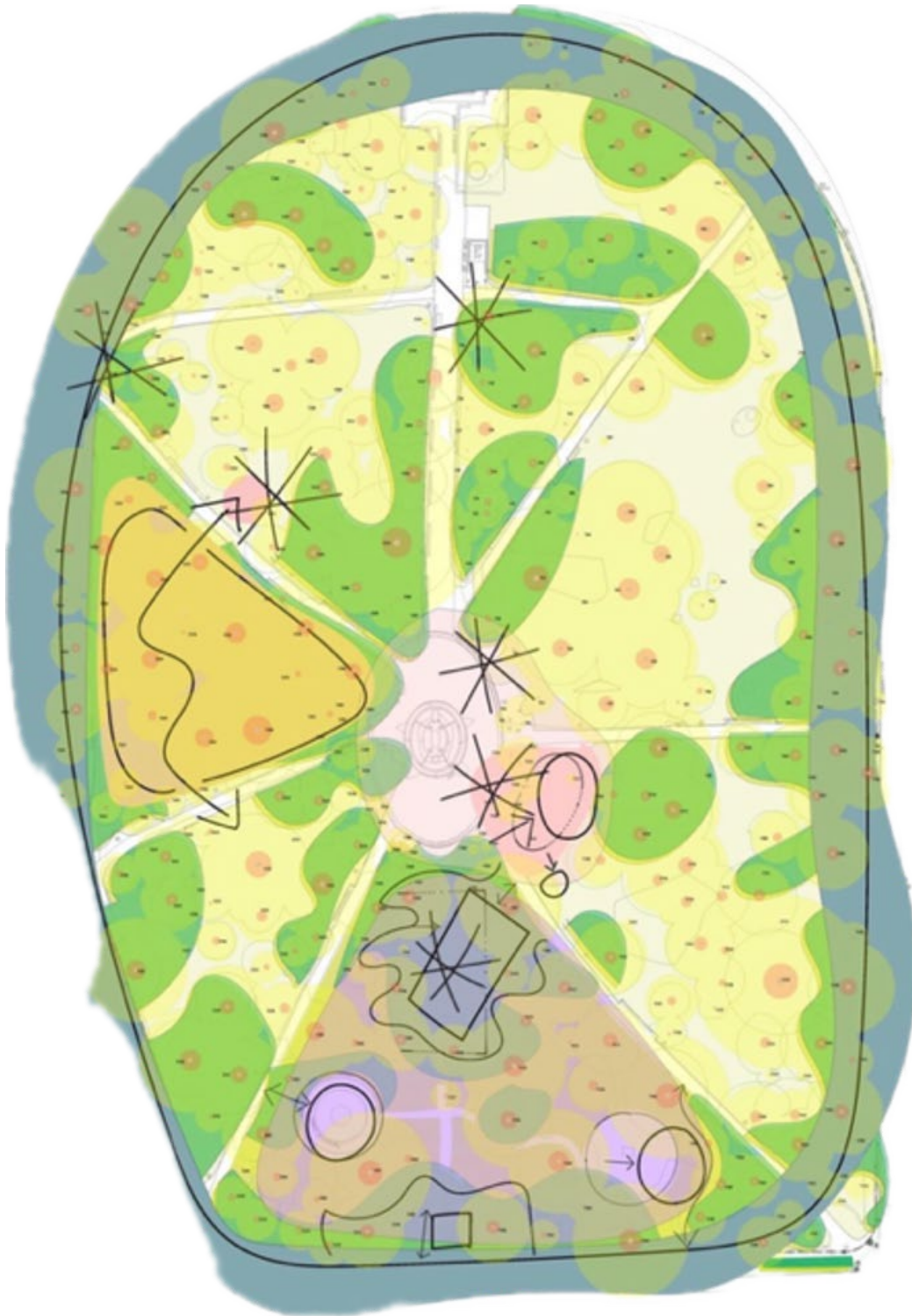


Diagram from the May 11, 2026 Public Meeting slide show.