



NOTICE OF MOTION

Authorization to Release Section 37 funds for the creation and installation of a plaque to commemorate Research Enterprises Limited

Moved by: Councillor

Chernos Lin

Seconded by: Councillor

Fletcher

SUMMARY:

This Motion seeks authorization to release \$10,000 in Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Account) funds to Heritage Toronto for the creation and installation of a plaque to commemorate Research Enterprises Limited (REL)

REL was a short-lived Toronto-based Crown Corporation that built electronics and optical instruments during the Second World War. During this time, they became Leaside's largest employer.

At its peak, the company's plants covered most of the area between Eglinton Avenue, Laird Drive, and Research Road, along with smaller shops and storage extending to Wicksteed Avenue further south. In total, the company estate covered 22 hectares, had 70,000 square metres of floor space, employed 7,500 men and women, and produced \$220 million worth of radar systems and optical instruments that helped the Allies win the war.

After REL was closed, their factories formed the basis of a Corning Glass plant, Philips Electronics, and a variety of other firms. Today only a few of the original buildings still stand, used primarily for light industrial and small commercial enterprises.

This Heritage Toronto plaque will mark the history of REL and the Canadian war effort in Leaside and will compliment planned interpretive signs in Radar Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council increase the 2026 Operating Budget for Heritage Toronto on a one-time basis by \$10,000.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 146-150 Laird Drive, secured for capital improvements in the Ward (Source Account: XR3026- 3700998), for the production and installation of a plaque to commemorate Research Enterprises Limited (Cost Centre: HG0001).

Date: July 14, 2026