

September 28, 2016

Re: Camden Terrace Heritage Destination

To: Committee Members of the Planning and Environment Committee

Dear Committee Members,

Rygar Corporation insisted at the last public meeting regarding the fate of Camden Terrace that the soil beneath Camden Terrace was so contaminated that they would need to remove three metres worth of soil to remedy the site.

I obtained those reports and sent them to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, London Office. Here's is what they said:

The sampling of soil was not done beneath Camden Terrace as was stated by Rygar representatives during the public meeting but rather in the area of the parking lot.

The metals and pollutants such as Benzo found in the soil are most likely associated with gasoline, car exhaust, car batteries and not necessarily present beneath Camden Terrace as cars and the uses of many of these metals would not have been common at the time it was built.

Metals found in the soil were equal for 479 – 489 Talbot (behind Camden Terrace) and the heritage buildings on Dufferin Street, yet the buildings on Dufferin Street were protected.

The metals found in the soil samples were shallow and low compared to other sites in the downtown core, and could be disposed of in a regular landfill.

Contamination was so shallow that it did not infect the groundwater.

Rygar Corporation bold faced lied, the planner reviewing this file left and NO ONE on committee or staff read the file to confirm whether the statements presented were accurate or not.

Now, after a decision was already made to demolish Camden Terrace, we are here again deciding whether it deserves a heritage destination.

I am dizzy with the backwards process that has brought us here today.

It was one year ago that committee decided to delay a decision on designating Camden Terrace as a heritage site because it wanted to see what the developer was planning for the site – pitting heritage against development rather than designating Camden Terrace based on its own merits.

If anyone wanted proof that developers rule city hall, they have it here in this file.

If Rygar bold faced lied at a public meeting, and committee members did not read the file, then none of these decisions can be respected.

Sincerely,

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