

MUSEUM | LONDON

11 May 2017

Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON

To the committee:

Following up on a meeting that we held on Monday with some members of City Council and City administration, it was suggested that we write to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee to let them know our thoughts about the current BRT initiative in relationship to the Museum's *Centre at the Forks* project, the London Community Foundation's *Back to the River* project, and the City's *My Dundas* initiative.

These three projects have been conceived and designed to make the Forks of the Thames and the west end of downtown a remarkable people place and a cultural and recreational gathering place for the entire community. Given this, we did want to make our concerns known as it relates to the transit plans for the Forks, and in particular, the Kensington Bridge.

We certainly understand how critical the BRT initiative is to making London a progressive and livable city but we would be remiss if we didn't point out how the plans for a BRT couplet in the Downtown could encroach on the primary objectives of the projects we are undertaking, and how critical it is to minimize the traffic in this area, particularly automobile traffic.

If the Kensington Bridge must be used for transportation, we would hope that it be confined to bus rapid transit which, given its periodic schedule, would also allow for reasonable and safe people circulation in the area. Should automobile traffic continue on the Kensington Bridge as it does now, that would not be possible without significant changes that address the flow of pedestrians.

We look forward to continuing this discussion and coordinating our projects. We know we can make each of these initiatives successful by working together and sharing awareness and input.

Sincerely,

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