

From: Betsy Little  
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2021 8:42 AM  
To: PEC <pec@london.ca>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] File: OZ-9157 435-451 Ridout St N ZBA Application

I have a specific interest in this proposal. As a direct descendent of one of the three original donors of Eldon House, I am aware of the assurances gratefully given by the Municipality at the time of the gift. The Municipality was faced with a decision when it determined that a planned river road was no longer a viable proposal and an extension of what is now Dufferin Avenue was demanded by Labatt's for its parking lot on the flats.

At that time, at a Public Meeting at which the Harris Family appeared and opposed that access, a comment was made that Labatt's would likely sue to enforce their rights to access to that lot. Obviously, the Family, having gifted the entirety of the development of Eldon House and Harris Park, would not. As Councillor Ed Blake said, it was, indeed, only a business decision which the Municipality had to make. Whose ox was to be gored?

It seems we have reached a repeat issue. Heritage or encroachment?

The Harris Family would not be happy with us proposal.

I am deeply concerned with the dominating nature of this development proposal. It would loom over and dwarf the Ridout Street Complex, one of London's few National Historic Sites. It would dominate the sightlines and public space associated with Harris Park and the Forks of the Thames, the historic heart of our City. The large addition built by John Labatt Limited as part of the original restoration was and is sympathetic to the historic streetscape. This proposed development is anything but sympathetic. I urge City Councillors to reject the Official Plan and zoning by-law amendment application.

Anthony Little