

Media Release

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## OMB MINTO DECISION UNWELCOME AND UNWARRANTED

The decision today of the Ontario Municipal Board to approve two massive skyscrapers proposed by Minto YE Inc. at 2195 Yonge Street will permit the development of the most wildly inappropriate and unwelcome monstrosity in the history of North Toronto.

The OMB effectively ratified a last minute, behind the scenes, backroom deal engineered by Councillor Anne Johnston. It was undertaken without knowledge of or input by the local Councillor or the local community, and approved by City Council. It will result in a massive overbuilding that is opposed by every ratepayer group in North Toronto.

This decision is clear evidence that the planning process in Toronto has been stripped of any meaningful public consultation. In spite of the attendance by 1200 residents at two separate public meetings, over 10,000 hours of volunteer time in opposition, and a year-long process of review with City officials, the community was ignored by Councillor Johnston, City Council and the OMB.

This decision also illustrates the dire need to shelve the proposed new Official Plan, which clearly encourages this kind of development. This draft Official Plan was used in support of this development in spite of the existence of the community-supported Yonge-Eglinton Part 11 Official Plan, which calls for the rejection of this proposal out of hand. We now have a concrete illustration of the direction in which our City planners want to take us, and it is entirely unacceptable.

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