

September 8, 2017

Gabriella Sicheri  
Director, Development  
Build Toronto  
200 King Street West, Suite 200  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 3T4

Dear Gabriella,

I am writing to congratulate you on the success of the Etobicoke Civic Centre (ECC) Design Competition, and to recognize your efforts and those of your colleagues as an exceptional, collective act of city-building.

The task of leading a design competition and preparing a business plan to support the relocation of the ECC to the Westwood Theatre Lands was a formidable one. The schedule for this work, as mandated by City Council, added additional pressure to complete the competition phase of the work quickly, employing as simple a methodology as possible.

In light of these pressures, Build Toronto's willingness establish the vision for the ECC through an open two-stage design competition, rather than limiting the field to your own prequalified list of design consultants, represents tremendous leadership on behalf of the world's design community in recognizing the power design can have to shape the future of our cities. This decision, the competition as it unfolded, and ultimately the juried selection of the Henning Larsen / Adamson / PMA Landscape Architects submission, proves the value of open design competitions for projects of such civic importance. The winning team's vision is bold, compelling and inspiring, and a powerful representation of the future of Etobicoke as a humane and sustainable city.

The success of the competition is due in large part to Build Toronto's courage in opening the door to a wider range of design voices including international talent, and your faith in that same community to interpret the local context and needs of the Etobicoke community and, in partnership with local architects, establish holistic solutions that are at once highly innovative and familiar. It was an honour to work with you through this process and I look forward with great anticipation to the next steps.



*Above: the winning vision for the ECC (Henning Larsen / Adamson / PMA)*

Yours sincerely,

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