

Highlights of this Don Mills Friends News Flash:

- **Don Mills vs. Eastern Avenue**
- **Save the Medical Building at 75 The Donway West!**
- **Flops at Don Mills Opening Postponed to April 2009**

Don Mills vs. Eastern Avenue

The proposed big-box retail development in the Eastern Ave. and Leslie St. area has been getting an enormous amount of publicity, with yet another article appearing in the Toronto Star on April 23 ([click here](#) to read it), discussing various pros and cons of the project. As previously reported, Toronto Mayor David Miller, along with City Council, has been quite vocal in denouncing the development.

The Don Mills Centre redevelopment, which has a significantly deeper impact on Canada's first planned community than the Eastern Ave. project has on its neighbourhood, has barely even been touched by major media. Is it too hot an issue because the developer is Cadillac Fairview?

What's at stake in each case? The property in the Eastern Ave. project currently houses a film studio that will soon move to a new location anyway. The Eastern/Leslie community is not losing a well-established neighbourhood shopping mall that has become the heart and soul of the community, as was the case with the Don Mills mall. It is not being faced with the prospects of monstrous condominium highrises as we are here. And it is not about to lose a unique medical service facility that is a vital lifeline for thousands of residents, as is our medical building at 75 The Donway West.

But area councillor Paula Fletcher deserves respect: at least she is doing her job. Our Don Mills representatives should learn from her. The mayor, councillors, and the media should have done, and should do, for Don Mills what they have been doing for Eastern Avenue. But they are choosing not to. It boggles the mind.

Save 75 The Donway West / Flops opening postponed to April 2009

As if it were not enough of a crime to rob the Don Mills community of its community mall and put local merchants out of business, we are now threatened with the loss of our medical building. The planned conversion of 75 The Donway West would leave thousands of users, including numerous seniors and disabled friends, without their doctor, dentist, or other medical service provider. Currently, the facilities at 75 TDW offer residents the unique concentration of a full range of medical services under one roof. Thanks to its central location, the building is easily accessible for area residents, who can walk or make their way there in wheelchairs and scooters, or take a short taxi ride. Then, they have doctors, dentists, chiropractors, physiotherapists, massage therapists, and laboratory services ALL UNDER ONE ROOF.

The plans to convert the building to residential will put an end to that one remaining convenience for Don Mills residents. The tenants at 75 TDW will be forced to look for new facilities. The developer claims that tenants will have the option of leasing new offices in the new commercial development. But take a look at the website for the "[Offices at Don Mills](#)." It states: "These premium commercial spaces are superbly located to build and attract an affluent consumer base." Will the average OHIP practitioner be able to afford these "premium commercial spaces"? Not likely. And what about the "affluent consumer base" that these offices are expected to "attract" and cater to? Clearly, these offices are not being built to serve the current local residents. (Neither are the upscale "premium" stores whose opening date has been postponed to April 2009, as per the developer's [website](#).)

Where will the tenants of 75 The Donway West go? Where will you find your doctor? If you are concerned about the loss of the medical services currently provided at 75 The Donway West, we urge you to express your concerns to our local representatives at City Hall. Names and contact details are listed below. We would also suggest that you make your views

known to the local groups and organizations that have been supportive of the redevelopment and the conversion of 75 TDW, including the [DMRI](#) and the [Don Mills Foundation for Seniors](#).

City of Toronto Mayor David Miller:

E-mail: mayor_miller@toronto.ca

Mail: Toronto City Hall, 2nd Floor, 100 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Phone: 416-397-CITY (2489)

Fax: 416-696-3687

Don Mills Councillors:

- Cliff Jenkins, Ward 25, Don Valley West
100 Queen Street West, Suite A12
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Phone: 416-395-6408
Fax: 416-395-6439
councillor_jenkins@toronto.ca

- John Parker, Ward 26, Don Valley West
City Hall:
100 Queen Street West, Suite A13
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Phone: 416-392-0215
Fax: 416-392-7427

Neighbourhood office:

150 Laird Dr., Suite 101

Toronto, ON M4G 3V7

Phone: 416-423-1434

councillor_parker@toronto.ca

- Denzil Minnan-Wong, Ward 34, Don Valley East
City Hall:
100 Queen Street West, Suite C55
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Phone: 416-397-9256
Fax: 416-397-4100
councillor_minnan-wong@toronto.ca