

**Deborah Brown** Chief Administrative Officer

Heritage Advisory Committee City of Mississauga 300 City Centre Drive Mississauga, ON L5B 3C1 Attention: Martha Cameron, Legislative Coordinator

October 5, 2023

Dear Chair and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee,

I write to provide information on the capital project in planning for the UTM campus raised by a community member at the September 12, 2023 meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee.

As you may know, UTM finalized a new <u>Campus Master Plan</u> (2021) that envisions the physical future of the campus to 2036. It provides a holistic plan and decision-making framework for the future land use and built form of the campus within the context of UTM's natural and cultural heritage, context within the community, zoning by-laws, and academic and research mission. The Plan identifies UTM's unique natural setting, leadership in sustainable design, and Indigenous place-keeping as guiding principles that will inform the ways in which UTM's built environment will support and drive our strategic contributions to our region - research, teaching, and civic engagement. The Campus Master Plan is aligned with the City of Mississauga's Official Plan, integrating the Official Plan's priorities around environmental sustainability through the protection and enhancement of the campus' natural heritage network.

The Campus Master Plan was developed following an extensive consultation period from February 2020 to November 2021. We engaged UTM and broader communities to better understand the priorities and vision of our students, faculty, staff, community members, Indigenous community members and Elders, and City staff, working with Ward 8 Councillor Matt Mahoney throughout this process.

The Campus Master Plan identifies a future development site in an existing clearing within the forested area on the north side of Outer Circle Road. Potential development in this area would be sensitively designed to minimize impacts to ecology and habitats, and informed by site-specific environmental studies. A development project is currently in planning for this site. The project has not yet proceeded to any work on the site. UTM has worked extensively with Credit Valley Conservation, City staff, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, and professional ecologists as part of the planning and design of this project to develop strategies for sensitive habitats and species, tree preservation, and ecological stewardship. We remain committed to active communications and working with neighbours near the site once the project advances to the development phase.

We hold our campus to the highest standards of sustainability, stewardship and taking steps to deepen Indigeneity. We share these values as a community within the City of Mississauga, and strive to meaningfully put these values into action every day in our campus planning, design and operations. More information on UTM's action towards a series of ambitious sustainability goals – including the goal of achieving a climate positive campus by 2050 - is available in our <u>Sustainability Strategic Plan</u> and subsequent <u>progress reports</u>.

Sincerely,

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Deborah Brown Chief Administrative Officer

Cc/ Councillor Matt Mahoney, Ward 8