

January 19, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to support the project titled 'EnvisionTO', proposed by Summer Leigh, as part of the mandate of Museums and Heritage Services to engage the public in presenting Toronto's history.

EnvisionTO will be a virtual-reality portal to experience Toronto's historical urban topography. Using Toronto's Open Data catalogue, City Archive documents, and 3D data from the Ontario Heritage Trust, the project will digitally re-create pre-confederation Toronto to the present. A tool like the one proposed has never been developed – and would be of great use to a variety of audiences including historians, architects, developers, students, tourists and curious citizens.

This initiative seeks to create content that could complement the efforts of groups such as City of Toronto Historic Sites, the Ontario Heritage Trust, Heritage Toronto, the Toronto Museums Network and serve as a promotional tool – in celebration of Canada's sesquicentennial.

Your assistance will help ensure the success of the project and help provide us with a compelling window on the past that will both enhance awareness and inform our understanding of, and our work related to history and our built heritage.

We are excited about the potential to envision our past with technologies of the future and think that it is a fitting way to celebrate and commemorate Toronto's history while marking Canada's Sesquicentennial in 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Ostola".

Larry Ostola
Director, Museums and Heritage Services,
Economic Development and Culture, City of Toronto