



# Tom Rakocevic

MPP / Député, Humber River—Black Creek

## Queen's Park

Room / Bureau 330  
Main Legislative Building /  
Édifice de l'Assemblée législative  
Queen's Park • Toronto, ON M7A 1A8  
☎ 416-326-7585 📠 416-326-7634  
✉ TRakocevic-QP@ndp.on.ca

## Community Office Bureau du circonscription

Unit 38, 2300 Finch Ave. W.  
North York, ON M9M 2Y3  
☎ 416-743-7272  
📠 416-743-3292  
✉ TRakocevic-CO@ndp.on.ca

July 23, 2020

Hon. Caroline Mulroney  
Minister of Transportation  
777 Bay St., 5th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

### Re: Finch West LRT lands for Community Hub

Dear Minister Mulroney,

I am writing to you to express my deep disappointment regarding the recent decision of Metrolinx to break its agreement on an important community project in the Jane and Finch area and to call on your government to honour this commitment.

As part of the Finch West LRT, Metrolinx expropriated a large parcel of land to build a storage and maintenance facility for its light rail vehicles. Within that larger parcel, Metrolinx had agreed to provide a smaller parcel of land at no cost for the future construction of a community hub.

In a recent e-mail to my office, Metrolinx has now indicated that providing the land parcel to the community was no longer a "reasonable option" and it would be putting the land on the market following completion of the project. This is unacceptable.

Minister, I have sat in on multiple meetings in my previous role working with the local City Councillor Anthony Perruzza, and witnessed Metrolinx's commitment to providing this land for community use. At these meetings, this parcel was agreed to be a reasonable community benefit to a neighbourhood where many families face many systemic barriers. These systemic issues have only been highlighted by recent Covid-19 incidence maps revealing that the Jane and Finch community has been one of the hardest hit by the pandemic.

The decision to abruptly change course on this visionary project is a devastating blow to our community. Jane and Finch families are counting on this community hub. Your government should not allow Metrolinx to turn their back on us and auction the land off to the highest bidder.

Minister, I am asking you to work with Metrolinx and ensure they honour their commitment to such an important and needed project. Jane and Finch families deserve at least that much.

Sincerely,

Tom Rakocevic  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
Humber River-Black Creek

CC: Premier Doug Ford  
Hon. Kinga Surma - Associate Minister of Transportation (GTA)  
Councillor Anthony Perruzza  
Luiza Sadowski, Senior Manager, Community Relations – Metrolinx  
Community Action Planning Group (CAPG)