

December 21, 2011

Dear UTS Community,

As we approach the end of 2011, the Board of Directors would like to update you on recent activity regarding the search for a future site for the school, as well as on our ongoing discussions with the University of Toronto.

Deliberations with the University of Toronto have continued throughout the fall. These discussions, both formal and informal will, we hope, lay the basis for our future relationship and partnerships with the university. We intend to have a plan for a new facility in place before our license at 371 Bloor Street runs out in 2021. Our goal is to reduce any uncertainty for our community and to allow for concrete planning for the future.

We have developed four preliminary criteria to guide us in our site selection efforts:

1. Proximity to the University of Toronto's St. George Campus

UTS has always distinguished itself by its association with the University of Toronto and by its proximity to the St. George campus. Nearness to the campus is important in order to support ongoing affiliation activities with the university, such as our partnership with the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs, an initiative of our Global Ideas Institute. We are also research partners with OISE faculty including Canada Research Chair Jim Slotta whose work in the area of technology-enriched inquiry pedagogy in science teaching is conducted with UTS students and teachers. Similarly, our partnership with the Rotman School of Management's K-12 "I Think" program is furthered by proximity to the campus.

This summer, UTS will expand partnership with the university with the launch of a two-week summer course on Integrative Thinking. In addition, the highly successful Maximum City program, introduced last summer by UTS teacher Josh Fullan, will be held again this year in partnership with the Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design. As well as these program connections, UTS students continue to use the libraries on campus and also to attend and audit classes.

Finally, UTS alumni, students, staff and parents associate the school's identity with the St. George campus, and any new site will be more readily recognized as consistent with the UTS 100-year history, if the school is located near the campus.

2. Close to a Subway Line

UTS students come from across the Greater Toronto Area, with many living outside of Toronto in Peel, York and Durham Regions. Many rely on public transit to commute to the school and having the school situated on a subway line is viewed as essential.

3. Financially Doable and Sustainable

UTS has been preparing for a new building, whether at 371 Bloor Street or another location, for some time. We recognize that it will be a major financial undertaking to purchase property, construct a school, and maintain and run our own facility. We are committed to a facility that will support and enhance the delivery of our academic and co-curricular programming efficiently and cost-effectively.

4. Must Meet our Program Needs

The school's administration has reviewed our current program needs and continuously looks to the future. Our future facility must allow us to maintain and enhance our current programs, both curricular and co-curricular, including athletic requirements and community spaces. We must also anticipate future educational changes. To this end, we have been researching school requirements for the 21st century and are committed to providing a school space that meets our needs.

Financially, UTS is in a position of strength, thanks to the generous support of our community. The UTS Foundation has stewarded a building fund of nearly \$10,000,000. We are now in the early planning stages of a capital campaign to augment the funds held by the UTS Foundation and to develop the resources necessary to secure a new facility for UTS.

We are confident that in the coming years, UTS will thrive in a new facility that will fully serve our community's needs. We appreciate your ongoing support and commitment to the future of UTS as we explore options and opportunities. We will endeavour to provide ongoing updates on a regular basis (in March, June, September and December annually) with additional updates as needed to notify all community members of any noteworthy developments. Please continue to share your comments and suggestions by contacting us at building@utschools.ca.

On behalf of the Board, our sincere best wishes for the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Bob Lord '58
Chair, UTS Board of Directors