INTRODUCTION:

To Mayor & Council,

The Northern Junk site at the head of the Johnson Street Bridge presents unique set of opportunities and challenges. The site is in a prominent position in the City between Old-Town and Inner-harbour. Currently isolated between Reeson Park to the south and the as-yet undefined Bridgehead Green park to the North, the site offers the potential to complete a key piece of the public realm and neighbourhood revitalization through its design and development.

The proposed development responds to a number of planning and urban design objectives set forth in the OCP and Core Area Plans. In particular, it will provide housing diversity in the form of new rental apartments, an upgrade of two heritage buildings, improve public access to the waterfront and support economic and social vitality in the area, all within a built-form that is in keeping with the goals of area design guidelines.

The project consists of a multi-unit residential apartment building set atop the existing Northern Junk warehouse buildings (Caire & Grancini Warehouse and Fraser Warehouse) that are to be rehabilitated and incorporated into a mixed-use development. The project brings together active ground level uses, new housing options, and an integrated public access and extension of the public waterfront walkway.

Previous iterations of the project envisioned a comprehensive redevelopment of City-owned lands to the East and North of the site, the current proposal seeks -within a much smaller footprint- to still deliver public realm and heritage preservation and rehabilitation, and contribute to the economic, social, and architectural vitality of the neighbourhood. The nature of the development however becomes less about a landmark structure marking a gateway, but rather an extension of built patterns in the area leaving the City-owned lands with potential for future development.

