



May 26, 2026

Nick Simone, Chair of the Board - Metrolinx
Michael Lindsay, President and Chief Executive Officer - Metrolinx
Mark Childs, Chief Marketing Officer - Metrolinx
Maya Kolaczynski, Chief Strategy and Planning Officer - Metrolinx

Via email: chair@metrolinx.com; ceo@metrolinx.com; ontarioline@metrolinx.com

Re: Request to Reopen Consultation on the Queen-Spadina Ontario Line Station Name

Dear Mr. Simone, Mr. Lindsay, Mr. Childs, and Ms. Kolaczynski,

I am writing on behalf of the Garment District Neighbourhood Association regarding the recently announced name for the future Ontario Line station at Queen Street West and Spadina Avenue.

Our request is straightforward: Metrolinx should reopen the consultation process before the Queen-Spadina station name is treated as final.

This letter is not opposition to Chinatown, nor is it opposition to the recognition of Chinatown as one of Toronto's most important cultural, historic, and commercial districts. The concern is process, geography, wayfinding, and local consultation.

Station names are not decorative. They are public wayfinding tools. They shape how residents, workers, businesses, visitors, tourists, emergency responders, and future transit riders understand where they are in the city. A station name attached to Queen and Spadina should be assessed carefully against the station's actual geography, surrounding neighbourhood identity, transit clarity, and public input.

The GDNA has been engaged with the Ontario Line process for several years. Members of our community have participated in discussions related to station construction, community impacts, and local concerns. We were therefore surprised and disappointed to learn that the station name had been finalized without a clear, public, local consultation process involving the residents, businesses, neighbourhood associations, BIAs, and other affected stakeholders in the immediate station area.

This is particularly concerning because Toronto and East York Community Council previously requested that Metrolinx formally engage with the Garment District Neighbourhood Association and the Chinatown Land Trust for input into the naming of the Queen-Spadina station. To our knowledge, that consultation did not occur before the name was announced as final.

The Queen-Spadina intersection sits at the meeting point of several overlapping downtown identities, including Queen West, the Garment District, the Fashion District, Chinatown, and the broader Spadina corridor. That complexity is exactly why consultation is necessary. When a public infrastructure decision affects

neighbourhood identity and wayfinding at one of downtown Toronto's most visible intersections, the process must be open, transparent, and credible.

At our most recent board meeting, the GDNA Board discussed this issue and agreed that the appropriate next step is to formally request that Metrolinx reopen the consultation process. Our members and local residents have also expressed concern about the lack of consultation and the need for a station name that accurately reflects the station's location and surrounding community.

We are therefore asking Metrolinx to:

1. Reopen the consultation process for the Queen-Spadina Ontario Line station name.
2. Conduct meaningful consultation with directly affected local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, neighbourhood associations, BIAs, cultural organizations, and community representatives.
3. Publish or share the criteria used to evaluate station names, including how geography, wayfinding clarity, neighbourhood identity, cultural recognition, and public feedback are weighted.
4. Confirm how the prior request from Toronto and East York Community Council for engagement with the Garment District Neighbourhood Association was addressed.
5. Provide a clear timeline for any further review or consultation before the station name is permanently embedded across public communications, signage, maps, and related materials.

The GDNA is not asking to unilaterally name the station. We are asking that the promised and appropriate consultation take place before the decision is treated as final.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with Metrolinx and other relevant stakeholders to discuss a fair process for reviewing the station name and ensuring that the final decision reflects both the station's location and the communities it serves.

Please ensure this letter is circulated to the appropriate senior staff and departments responsible for station naming, public communications, planning, and community consultation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Curtis Priest, President - Garment District Neighbourhood Association
president@gdnatoronto.org | gdnatoronto.org

cc: Councillor Ausma Malik, Deputy Mayor, Ward 10 — Spadina–Fort York
cc: MPP Chris Glover, Spadina–Fort York
cc: MP Chi Nguyen, Spadina–Harbourfront
cc: GDNA Members