
DATE 12 February 1997

TO/DEST. Chair and Members of Regional Council

FROM/EXP. Planning and Development Approvals Commissioner

SUBJECT/OBJET **NEW CONVENTION CENTRE - UPDATE**

PURPOSE

In November, Council asked that I report back on the selection of a site for a new Convention Centre in the central area of Ottawa by 31 January 1997. This is a status report on the progress to date.

The Convention Centre Steering Committee, made up of representatives from OCEDCO, OTCA, the Ottawa Congress Centre, City of Ottawa and Region's Planning and Development Approvals Department, prepared guidelines for an expression of interest. An advertisement appeared in the media on Wednesday, November 27, 1996. Three parties expressed interest in the proposal but only two submissions were actually received from Minto Development Inc. and from Viking Rideau Corporation.

The two proponents have both been interviewed by the Steering Committee and an analysis has been carried out.

There are advantages and disadvantages to both proposals. Furthermore both proposals have issues which need further resolution and discussion with the proponents. On 29 January 1997, John Maxwell from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre provided the Steering Committee with considerable insight into the proposals and following a visit to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the Steering Committee decided that the best way to proceed was to go back to the two proponents for further clarification. This will be done in the next few weeks. I hope the Steering Committee will then be able to make a recommendation.

Approved by
N. Tunnacliffe, MCIP, RPP

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