

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ana Teresa Portillo

Phone: 647.236.6121

Email: aportillo@parc.on.ca

Coalition Says Don't "Skale" Back on Safe and Affordable Housing

Community members celebrate National Housing Day by calling on the City & Skale Developments to uphold their promises of affordable and safe housing.

Toronto ON (November 15, 2022) - Justice for Queen and Close (J4Q&C), in solidarity with the Toronto Drop-in Network (TDIN), the Shelter, Housing Justice Network (SHJN), and Parkdale People's Economy, are holding a press conference at the corner of Queen Street West and Close Avenue on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 4:00PM to celebrate National Housing Day of Action and to demand justice for Queen and Close.

[Justice for Queen and Close](#), a community coalition, is waging an affordable, safe, and healthy housing campaign against Skale Developments, a boutique condo developer with a self-described dedication to "pure luxury," who has been approved for a new residential development site at 1375 Queen Street West in South Parkdale (at the corner of Queen Street West and Close Avenue) comprising seven stories and 50 units.

"We say NO to this development on the grounds of this developer's failure to provide affordable housing units - a promise they made five different times throughout the development approval process," says Coalition representative Mary Gelinas, "and their lack of transparency regarding the environmental contamination status of this site."

We call on Skale Developments to include local decent work provisions on this site, as well as other community benefits. We also call on the City of Toronto and Ward 4 City Councillor, Gord Perks, to support the efforts of the South Parkdale community to achieve meaningful affordable housing and other community benefits goals on this site and across the neighbourhood as set out in the [Parkdale Community Benefits Framework](#).

Our coalition seeks to reach [1000 signatures on their petition](#) by National Housing Day, November 22.

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To arrange an interview with Justice for Queen and Close, contact Ana Teresa Portillo at 647.236.6121 or at aportillo@parc.on.ca.