



Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital
Alliance pour les espaces verts de la capitale du Canada

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22 February 2015

To: The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister
The Honourable Shelly Glover, Minister of Canadian Heritage
The Honourable Pierre Poilievre, Minister Responsible for the NCC
Russell Mills, Chair, National Capital Commission

Dear Prime Minister, Ministers and Sir,

The Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital wishes to express its concern and dismay over the use of the space adjacent to the Supreme Court of Canada for a memorial to the victims of communism.

For over 50 years, this space has been reserved for the Federal Court of Canada building and we see no good reason to suddenly, and without any public consultation, insert a very large monument in its place. In our view, the urban heritage value of this site will be compromised by this action.

A Federal Court building would complete the triad of buildings in what is truly Canada's face to the nation. The site should be reserved for a Canadian building that relates to the theme – parliament and the rule of law and justice. We submit that this monument does not qualify for this site.

We therefore ask you to find another location for the proposed monument.

Yours sincerely,

Erwin Dreessen
Co-chair

Cc: Barry Padolsky, Shirley Blumberg, Larry Beasley

Founded in 1997, the Greenspace Alliance works with members of the community to preserve and enhance green and blue spaces in the National Capital area. It engages with all levels of government. We believe that urban greenness is essential for a community's quality of life, contributing to our personal, social, economic, cultural and spiritual well-being. It also connect us with the natural and cultural history of our region.