

**Community Comments Received by TOPCA re:
Lakeshore Walmart Proposal
as of May 11, 2011**

Below is a representative sampling of recent community input received by the Executive of the Town of Port Credit Association (TOPCA). TOPCA has not taken a formal position on the issue, pending fuller information and collaboration about the proposed development.

Just a comment about Walmart. Its emphasis on low prices is likely going to further drain retail dollars from Port Credit and Lakeview main street retailers. Unlike the function of the traditional department store, they reference those who were higher end and normally in more dense urban fabric. Also, its location means minimal foot traffic to other stores. *A.T.*

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I was intrigued by Walmart's reference to downsizing their store from the usual 200,000 square feet to 90,000 square feet. 90,000 square feet is more than two acres. A two acre store is a big box store. *B.U.*

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I reside in the Lakeview area of Mississauga. I understand there is a proposal for a Walmart. This would be devastating for our community. All the boutique shops, fun stores, ... is what makes Lakeview and Port Credit so unique. Walmart would destroy all of them. There is already a HUGE Walmart at Square One and North Queen (Etobicoke) So why Lakeshore? In a community by the water? *L.W.*

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I cannot see how the addition of a big box store such as Wal-Mart will do anything but damage the things that make the area so special. There is a long history of these large discount stores gutting the once-thriving downtowns of the communities they invade, and there is no reason to imagine this case would be any different. *H.M.*

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If one so desires to go to Walmart then it is a mere 10 minute drive to Etobicoke. Hazel, we understand that you have a great desire to keep building up Mississauga past the charm that it once had, but please listen to the people that actually live in this area when we say that this is not what we want and we will go to great lengths to protest this project being built. *J.G.*

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No issues with big box stores in Port Credit. They serve a purpose and are a part of the mix. Variety stores, specialty shops, restaurants, jewellers etc will continue to thrive. As long as it is setback from the main street I am in agreement. I would also love to see a Home Depot / Rona / Lowes on the Lakeshore. Driving 5 to 10 km to a hard[ware] store is a waste of gas and harmful to the environment. *J.S.*

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The Port Credit area is a community. The residents of the area support local merchants. We pride ourselves in doing this. Bringing Walmart into the area will not only hurt these people but greatly impact the traffic it brings into the area along with the problems associated with an increase in traffic. ... To bring this retailer into the area is an insult to the many people, residents who have worked so hard. *K.M.*

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I think safer, more humane communities come out of small shops that get people out walking and partaking of their neighbourhood. More Big Box stores are not what we need. ... seems a step in the wrong direction for our community. *L.U.*

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The Wal-mart effect is well documented and understood. Our local businesses will ultimately be devastated with the introduction of big box retail stores and that will ultimately lead to a decline in the area. Other considerations, such as increase in traffic and disruption on Lakeshore, cannot be ignored. We must protect the uniqueness of Port Credit in the same way that Toronto and Oakville have. ... Clarkson successfully fought against the gas power plant and it is now our turn to actively fight against this planned development. *L.R.*

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Walmart, as you know, is a commercial giant: it is extremely successful due to its immense buying power and the machine that it executes -- very much to the detriment of local business. Port Credit's small businesses bring variety, unique product offerings, and, most importantly, they bring people to the street, as well as a personal aspect that cannot be matched by the big stores. Local small business owners are committed to the community and without them we would not have such events as Paint the Town Red, Southside Shuffle Buy local, support local is the model with real growth potential and which yields the greatest local, regional and national benefits. *M.F.*

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I have taken interest in various projects around Port Credit and attended meetings for the library redevelopment when the project was proposed to be developed at the corner of Park Avenue & Rosewood Avenue (where our new outdoor pool is being built). It was nice to see in this particular case that the concerns of the residents were considered and alternate plans of action took place. This is what I hope will also happen with the Walmart proposal. We do NOT need a big-box store like Walmart in our neighbourhood. It would certainly compete with the businesses that we already have, causing some to potentially close, thereby ruining our lovely shopping community. *M.S.*

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I would like to express my concern with the proposal to include a Walmart store in Port Credit. I've lived in Port Credit for 6 years now and love the small community feel including the local shops, restaurants and waterfront. We do NOT need a big-box store like Walmart in our neighbourhood. I can't imagine the detrimental effect it would have on the small businesses and traffic. *S.B.*

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I'm a resident in the Cawthra/Lakeshore area and heard about the proposed Lakeshore Wal-Mart. I'm writing to express my opinion that a Wal-Mart in this area is not desired. We chose to live in the area for many reasons, one of them being that there are no big box stores nearby. This would wreck what Port Credit is. I'm concerned about how this changes the community and about the increase in traffic to the area. *S.S.*

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Can you please advise how I can best oppose this development? I understand there are other people in the community that are very unhappy and would like to unite with them to try and stop this unwelcome change to our main street. *P.T.*

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PLEASE! Please do not [follow] through with this Wal-Mart plan. It is the last thing we need down here! ... Also there is one by Sherway Gardens which is 5 minutes away. It would be absolutely pointless and such a huge waste of money. *D.F.*

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I was very disappointed to hear that a Walmart is planned for lovely historic Port Credit. I pride myself in being part of this community and support the local businesses whenever possible. I truly believe this will have a negative impact on the small businesses and on the charm of the area. *C.B-M.*

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We are residents of Mississauga and have been living, voting and paying taxes in the Port Credit area since 2003. ... Mayor, you have said many times that Port Credit is the jewel in the crown of Mississauga. We therefore cannot understand how allowing a Wal-mart will enhance this jewel. We also find it difficult to comprehend how the City of Mississauga could actively be enabling this, considering the current zoning for the area does not allow for this without changes to the city plan. *M.T.*

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I am forwarding this to everyone that I know in the neighbourhood because we need to find a way to STOP THE BIG BOX DEVELOPMENT they want to put in on Lakeshore Road in Port Credit. I'm not sure who we have to talk to, but if all of us make a stink about it they will have to listen to us! *L.R.*

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Got a comment? Please e-mail:
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