

# Concerned Ontario Doctors rally at Queen s Park



In a crowd of more than 1,000 people, Ontario doctors protested budget cuts at Queen s Park.

The protest took place on April 23 and was organized by Concerned Ontario Doctors, including Georgetown doctor Nadia Alam.

The rally was exhilarating and exhausting! Alam said.

We had over 1,000 attendees. Supporters travelled in by bus, train, car and subway from all corners of Ontario, Alam wrote in an e-mail. Physicians donated to charter buses to bring docs, patients and families down from Kitchener/Waterloo, Barrie, Sudbury, Ottawa, Kingston and so. It was a sight to see.

The speeches were moving, the public support was overwhelming. The march down the streets of Toronto was a sight to see. Police escorted us and rerouted pedestrians and traffic to keep the path clear. The thousands who saw us cheered and honked. The buildings on Bay St echoed with our message, Care not cuts, Put patients first! and Fund patients, not scandals!

For videos of the protest, please visit [www.carenotcuts.ca](http://www.carenotcuts.ca)

Submitted Photos

Saturday s rally was organized by an group called Concerned Ontario Doctors, co-led by Georgetown doctor Dr. Nadia Alam. Top, protesters march through Toronto. Middle, Dr. Nadia Alam takes a selfie with two other local doctors. Above, protesters stand outside of Queens Park.



The Osmington development would be done over three phases with Phase 1, calling for a 1.2-million sq. ft. (111,485-square-metre) enclosed mall and additional retail spaces. Subsequent phases would see the addition of office buildings as well as a hotel and apartments.

Submitted Photo

# Brampton mega mall proposal sparks retail turf war

By Peter Criscione  
Metroland Media Group

A proposal for a 1.2-million-square-foot mega mall in the city s north end has sparked a turf war in Brampton s retail sector.

Representatives of Osmington Mall appeared before planning committee Monday on a proposal for a new high-density development on 37 hectares (92 acres) at Bovaird Dr. and Mississauga Rd. The development would be anchored by a new mall and movie theatre.

The project has been on the books since 2010, but is currently stuck in a legal battle at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

Morguard, owner of Bramalea City Centre, has appealed the official plan amendment on the grounds that the mall is not adequately supported by the retail market demand.

Morguard took aim at a market study completed by Malone Givens Parsons in 2014 as part of a special Official Plan Amendment proposal.

The amendment would create a special designation for the development to make it part of the existing Mount Pleasant area, rather than Heritage Heights, which is still under planning.

A report to council lists several objections voiced by Morguard about the project including that it is not currently warranted and would usurp retail support for Mount Pleasant.

Morguard also mentions that the new mall

would undermine the massive investment made to expand retail space at Bramalea City Centre.

During the April 4 presentation, Paul Lowes, a planner who spoke on behalf of Osmington, said the project is located in an area that is not represented by major retail, fair distance to the other major retail locations.

A hearing is set for Sept. 13, 2016. Because it is under appeal, the final application decision is up to the OMB tribunal.

A recent presentation offered the public an opportunity to provide input and ask questions.

Residents raised concerns about urban sprawl, connectivity and traffic.

The Osmington development would be done over three phases with Phase 1, calling for a 1.2-million sq. ft. (111,485-square-metre) enclosed mall and additional retail spaces.

Subsequent phases would see the addition of office buildings as well as a hotel and apartments.

Parks, squares, and other public spaces are also planned for the site.

The project, at a cost of nearly \$1 billion to build, is expected to create 4,600 jobs and bring 6,000 inhabitants to the area.

Also complicating the Osmington development is the uncertain status of the GTA-West corridor and highway proposal, which the province suspended later last year.

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