

St. John's Church

When I moved into the West End almost ten years ago and noticed the two United Church edifices, both St. John's and St. Andrews, I realized immediately that the situation at St. John's would have to change drastically if the facility were to survive. Either another group would have to take it over or it would be demolished. There is no way the basically non-Christian West End would support both. Of course, already for a long time most members of *both* congregations live outside their catchment areas and drive in.

So, no surprise that the almost inevitable is about to happen. I am not happy about it but foresaw it long ago. I understand the general opposition to present plans for the property. For one thing, those plans allegedly do not fit within the current long-range plan for the area. Besides, don't we already have enough high rises in the WE? I side with the opponents.

However, my fellow opponents should realize that they and their neighbours themselves are the basic cause for this turn of events. We are talking church, but how many of you, my fellow opponents, ever attended St. John's or any other church in the West End? How do you think churches survive? Why, by the support of their members, of course. By having chosen to boycott church services, you have chosen for the demise of St. John's. You are fighting the result of your own choice. Choices have consequences.

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