

Councillor Paul Ainslie Toronto City Council Scarborough East - Ward 43

Chair, Scarborough Community Council Chair, Government Management Committee Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Date: January 12, 2012

Councillor Michael Thompson, Chair and Members of the Economic Development Committee To:

Councillor Paul Ainslie From:

Re: Creation of Policy to Preserve Architectural and Historical Significant Structures

The Guild Park & Gardens situated in Scarborough East Ward 43, which I represent contains a number of architectural and historical structures from buildings across the former City of Toronto and southern Ontario. The concept for a structural garden was conceived and carried through by the original owners of the Guild Inn. Rosa and Spencer Clark.

This concept in restoring and preserving our architectural history by displaying them in our city-owned parks and buildings will add texture and interest to our city spaces while respecting the pieces by giving them the audience they deserve.

The Guild Inn Gardens contains many artifacts: Six animal panels from the Bank of Montreal Building, Angel Panels from the North American Life Assurance Company, Margueretta Stone from the University Avenue Armories, Art Deco base-relief blocks from the Toronto Star building, lamps from Sunnyside Boardwalk, Ionic Capitals from the University of Toronto, a wall of decorative stone elements from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Provincial Paper building, and Abitibi Building to name a few. The Gardens are a unique display of Toronto's architectural history.

Engaging our Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Division to work with Planning and Building Divisions to create a policy and process to preserve further architectural and historical significant structures from buildings within the City of Toronto undergoing a demolition or renovations will only enhance our City in a positive and productive manner. We need to preserve our past through displaying these pieces of architectural art.

Recommendation:

1. The Economic Development Committee Direct the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, with other relevant City staff, report back to the committee to create a policy and process to preserve architectural and historical significant structures and fragments from buildings within the City of Toronto undergoing a demolition or renovations by placing them in appropriate locations throughout the grounds of the Guild Park & Gardens

Sincerely,

Councillor Paul Ainslie

City of Toronto, Scarborough East Ward 43

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