

Toronto STAFF REPORT

August 11, 2006

To: Chair and Members
Scarborough Community Council

From: Bill Blakes
Scarborough District Manager
Municipal Licensing and Standards

Subject: Natural Garden Exemption Request - Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 489
23 Doerr Road
Ward 38 – Scarborough Centre

Purpose:

To provide information on the above-noted request for a natural garden exemption for 23 Doerr Road, received in response to a notice served requiring that long grass and weeds be cut.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that City Council grant an exemption under Municipal Code, Chapter 489 Section 489-3E, as per the Department of Natural Environment & Horticulture attached approval and to cancel the served *NOTICE* and to allow the yard to remain as is at 23 Doerr Road.

Background:

Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 489 regulates “long grass and weeds”, requiring it to be cut upon receipt of a served notice. This regulation also provides for an exemption, which may be requested on receipt of such a notice, on the basis that the growth is exempt as a natural garden. This exemption is required under the regulation to be reported on for decision by Community Council. Background information is set out in this report to assist.

Comments:

On June 26, 2006, a Notice was served in reference to the property known as 23 Doerr Road in Ward 38, to require that the grass and weeds be cut, in accordance with Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 489. A letter dated June 29, 2006, was received from the owner of the subject property requesting an exemption from the grass and weeds cutting requirement on the basis that the property contains a natural garden

On August 11, 2006, Economic Development, Culture & Tourism reported that in their opinion the yard of the property does qualify as a Natural Garden.

Conclusions:

This report is submitted for information to Community Council in deciding whether or not to exempt the subject lands as a natural garden.

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List of Attachments:

1. Correspondence dated June 29, 2006
2. Copy of letter dated August 11, 2006, Natural Environment & Horticulture, EDCT