



**Janet  
DAVIS**

*City Councillor  
Ward 31  
Beaches-East York*



GRAHAM MITCHELL  
Executive Assistant

JAY THIESSEN  
Administrative Assistant

ERIN GEORGE  
Constituency Assistant

Toronto City Hall  
100 QUEEN STREET WEST  
SUITE C57, TORONTO ON  
M5H 2N2  
T 416.392.4035  
F 416.397.9289  
councillor\_davis@  
toronto.ca

[www.janetdavis.ca](http://www.janetdavis.ca)

East York Civic Centre  
Community Office  
850 COXWELL AVENUE  
EAST YORK, ON  
M4C 5R1  
T 416.397.4870  
F 416.397.4871

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From: Councillor Janet Davis

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

**RE: Report Request on the Potential Community Use of St. Bernadette Catholic School, in the Crescent Town Priority Neighbourhood**

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This year, the Ministry of Health approved funding for a new Community Health Centre for the Crescent Town priority neighbourhood. Access Alliance, a community health centre that specializes in serving newcomers, has received the contract to develop the centre. The United Way has indicated its interest in providing additional funding to develop a multi-service "community hub" that would provide more community space, and co-locate other community and recreation services.

St. Bernadette, a Toronto Catholic District School Board school that has been closed since 2001, has been identified as a potential site. Staff from Community Development, Facilities and Real Estate, Planning and Buildings, and Parks, Forestry and Recreation have held several meetings over the past few months with Access Alliance, potential service providers and the TCDSB to pursue this project.

At its meeting on June 13, 2007, the TCDSB declared this school surplus for its purposes, and will shortly be initiating the mandated 90-day offer period for surplus school properties.

Establishing a multi-service site at St. Bernadette provides an opportunity to achieve this Council's goal of expanding services in a priority neighbourhood in partnership with other orders of government, community agencies and funders.

In order to pursue formal negotiations with the TCDSB within the timeframe required, and to initiate any necessary planning processes, Council must consider this time-sensitive matter at its July 16, 2007 Council meeting.

**Therefore, I am recommending that Toronto and East York Community Council adopt the following motion:**

1. That Deputy City Manager, Sue Corke, report to the July 16, 2007 meeting of Toronto City Council on the potential use of St. Bernadette Catholic School as a community health centre and service hub for the priority neighbourhood of Crescent Town.

This report will allow the City to take advantage of this opportunity to invest in our priority neighbourhoods, and I urge you to support this report request.

Sincerely,

Councillor Janet Davis