



March 21, 2011

Administrator  
Toronto & East York Community Council  
100 Queen St. W., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M5H 2N2

**RE: The Railway Children – Declaration of an Event of Municipal Significance**

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing this letter to respectfully request Toronto City Council to designate the North American premiere of the theatrical production of *The Railway Children*, produced by Marquis Entertainment and the Touring Consortium as an Event of Municipal Significance.

*The Railway Children*, directed by Damian Cruden is this year's winner of the Olivier Award for Best Entertainment. It's North American premiere is being staged in the unique 1,000 seat Roundhouse Theatre which is a tented venue in Roundhouse Park adjacent to the historic Roundhouse located at 255 Bremner Boulevard in downtown Toronto.

The production, presented with Mirvish Productions, will have its first public performance on May 3, 2011 and anticipates running through to October 30, 2011. If it is embraced by the city, the production could be extended through to January 2012,

As with all other theatrical venues in our city, we would like to offer our patrons the opportunity to purchase both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages before the show and during the intermission of each performance. As this venue is a temporary one, we are applying for a Special Occasion Permit for permission to sell alcohol on the premises. In order to offer this service to our patrons in the lobbies at each and every performance, we have been directed to apply for a letter

designating this production an Event of Municipal Significance so that the Special Occasion Permit may be allowed to cover the entire run of the production.

The performance schedule will be as follows: Tuesday through Saturday performances will begin at 7:30pm as well as Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 2:00pm. The performance runs approximately two and a half hours with a 20 minute intermission.

Originally serialized in the London Magazine 1905 and published in book form in 1906, ***The Railway Children*** by **E. Nesbit** has been popular for many generations. It was made into an immensely successful film in 1970 and into several television and radio adaptations.

Set in the early Edwardian era, ***The Railway Children*** tells the story of Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis, three children who are reduced to poverty after their father is unjustly imprisoned and they are forced to move from a large comfortable house in London to a poor cottage in rural Yorkshire adjacent to the railroad tracks. The children befriend the local railway porter and embark on a magical journey of discovery, friendship and adventure.

We thank you for taking the time to present this request to City Council. If you require any further clarifications or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 416-473-6627 or [nemani67@gmail.com](mailto:nemani67@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Iris Nemani  
The Railway Children Canada