



Councillor Joe Mihevc

Toronto City Hall
St. Paul's West
Ward 21

MEMO

TO: Community Development and Recreation Committee

FROM: Councillor Joe Mihevc, Ward 21, St. Paul's West

RE: Request that City Council approve a service agreement with SPRINT and City of Toronto

DATE: November 4, 2011

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That City Council approve a service agreement with

1. Senior Peoples' Resources in North Toronto Inc. (SPRINT), in regards to this building, be approved for eligibility for below-market rent rates.
2. SPRINT, on behalf of the Forest Hill Bridge Club for a cost of \$750 per annum to use the old Council Chambers at 666 Eglinton Ave. W. for the purpose of playing bridge twice a week for three hour periods.
3. That this solution be seen as interim until a longer term tenant could be found, i.e. one that could sublet to the Forest Hill Bridge Club

SUMMARY:

The Forest Hill Bridge Club has been using the former Forest Hill Council Chambers at 666 Eglinton Ave. W. for the last 40 years. Its 50 odd members are senior citizens, living on fixed and limited incomes. The group is simply not able to pay any fees.

Furthermore, the space is not used for any city purpose. The space is empty except for the occasional public meeting in the evening. Real Estate staff have, to date, not been able to identify any City department user group.



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Further, the particular seniors, some of whom are 90-100 years of age, have very few social outlets. Charging them would kill the club and the seniors would be further housebound.

Most of the seniors are able to walk to this location as they live in the very near vicinity.

Given the special needs of these seniors, their limited financial means, and given that the space sits empty, these seniors should be able to stay until a municipal use is found.

SPRINT has agreed to sponsor the Club, and will take out liability insurance.

A sponsor has been found to pay \$750/year to pay to the City for the use of this space until a better solution is found. This amount would contribute to the operating costs associated with using the space.

This would be an interim solution that would be in place until a long-term tenant of the space, one that would sublet to the Club, is found. Social Development, Finance and Administration staff is working on finding tenants.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, St. Paul's West