

TORONTO ISLAND
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

102 Lakeshore Avenue Ward's Island Toronto Ontario M5J 1X8

Jan 15, 2018

To member of the Parks and Environment Committee and City Council, City of Toronto.

Making Toronto a safe haven for birds

This letter is written in support of the motion put forward by Councilor Joe Cressy # MM34.13. The motion recommends City Council request the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change designate the Toronto Islands a Bird Sanctuary under the Migratory Birds Act.

The TICA (Toronto Island Community Association) represents the interests and views of the 700 people that live in the Toronto Island community. Our community has always been a strong supporter of the Toronto Island Park and in advocating for protection its ecosystems. We believe that that motion is in the spirit of those values.

Our community recognizes that the islands are critical habitat to many birds and aquatic species. Critical habitats for birds and animal species are under threat throughout the GTA with the never-ending development. The island currently has a number of small areas that are designated bird sanctuaries. However, the reality is that birds use the whole Islands, parks and residential areas. This motion would greatly protect these areas and enhance the protection for birds that nest, live and migrate to and from the Toronto Islands. We should not lose this opportunity.

We urge the Parks and Environment committee to adopt this motion and then urge the adoption by Council.

Sincerely,

Tony Farebrother
Chair, Stewardship Committee and Executive member TICA.