



St. Bernadette's Family Resource Centre
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Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Toronto City Council
12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Attn: Marilyn Toft, Council Secretariat

Delivered by email to: councilmeeting@toronto.ca

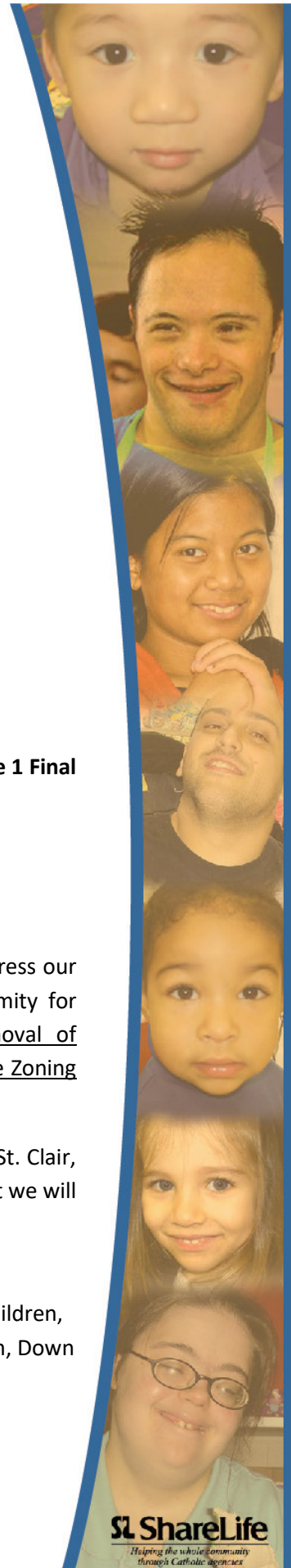
Re: PH27.2 – Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas – Phase 1 Final Report and Phase 2 Update

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council,

On behalf of St. Bernadette's Family Resource Centre, I wish to express our concern and alarm with respect to the report on Zoning By-Law conformity for employment zones in the Official Plan, specifically the proposed removal of permissions for bingo halls and related uses in the Former City of Etobicoke Zoning By-law (Attachment 9 to the Final Report).

Our charity is one of 66 local charities that rely on Delta Bingo and Gaming St. Clair, to support our organization in the Toronto community. Without that support we will simply not be able to function.

St. Bernadette's Family Resource Centre is a non-profit charity, non-denominational, community-based organization that has been integrating children, youth, and adults with intellectual and/or physical challenges, such as Autism, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Blindness, etc., with their "able" peers since 1992.



"God blesses those who are pure, for they will see God." (Matthew 5:8)

The agency offers accessible parent relief programs such as our **St. Bernadette's Day Care, Breakfast Club, Lunch program, Before/After School Club, Boogie Brats Dance Troop, March Break and Summer Camp, Parent/Child We Need a Break, Little Angel's Corner** for babies with special needs, **Mom, Tot & Babies program** for children birth to 12 and **St. Jude's Academy of the Arts**, our day program for youth and adults with special needs. Additionally, the programs we offer assist single parents, victims of wife abuse, new immigrants, and those who experience adverse circumstances such as low income, or have a developmental and/or physical challenge themselves. These services take place in an inclusive environment. Parent relief programs and support groups enable caregivers.

Delta Bingo St. Clair provides St. Jude's Academy of the Arts program funding to support 65 adults with intellectual and /or physical challenges. The last 18 months have been very challenging for everyone, and our organization is no exception. We have struggled to survive with very little funding as Delta St. Clair was closed for 420 days over the course of the pandemic. Now, due to a proposed expropriation from the City of Toronto and Metrolinx, the Delta St. Clair location will have to move to another site. The new site (at 360 Evans Ave.) is currently zoned to allow for a Bingo Hall. Under the proposed By-law amendment that permission would be revoked.

As you can appreciate, finding an appropriate venue at a reasonable price in the current real estate environment is a real challenge. We are looking forward to the move to 360 Evans Ave. and urge you not to remove this permission and allow us to re-locate as planned with the current permissions.

Based on the concerns identified above, we respectfully request that the Draft By-laws and report, specifically as it applies to the use of employment lands for bingo halls, is removed entirely or in the very least referred back to City Planning staff for dedicated public consultation and review. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and we look forward to further discussions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Angie Carboni
Executive Director