From: greg sheehan
To: councilmeeting

Subject: Dundas Street Renaming

Date: April 26, 2021 4:27:04 PM

To: Executive Committee, City of Toronto

From: Greg Sheehan

Re: Dundas Street Renaming

Date: April 26, 2021

Although I have provided other comments with respect to this matter since it arose, I would like this specific communication to be added to the agenda of any Executive Committee or Council Meeting where it is an agenda item. I also wish and consent to it being made accessible to the public through a link on any site where correspondence on this matter has been publicly listed.

As a person who spent his childhood in Toronto living adjacent to Dundas Street, attending a church located on it and walking and riding the streetcar along it, this is part of my history and many others that should not be erased. I believe it would be appropriate to add signage describing the history of Henry Dundas but to change the name of Dundas Street and other locations bearing his name on the basis of a petition from .005 per cent of the City's population is unwarranted. Obviously this movement for a name change is not widespread and if the goal is to educate not bury history then explanatory signage will achieve that purpose without the expense and inconvenience of name changes. If name change is the preferred option of City Council it should not be approved without a city-wide referendum to give the other 99.995 of the city's population a say on a change that affects their personal histories.

Greg Sheehan