



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**

Councillor Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

January 13, 2009

Brenda Patterson
General Manager
Parks and Recreation

Skating on Grenadier Pond

Dear Ms. Patterson,

Thank you for your call today about skating on Grenadier Pond. Whether speed skating, family skating, shinny or simply enjoying a casual skate under a blue sky, the community continues the long standing tradition of using Grenadier Pond as an outdoor ice surface.

In the fall of 2007, PFR staff developed a policy entitled "Activities on Frozen Open Bodies of Water". This was in response to concerns that residents were skating on Grenadier Pond and that its safety could not be guaranteed. As you are aware, Grenadier Pond still remains a favourite outdoor skating location for Torontonians living in the west end of the city. There are many skaters and shinny players who are active in keeping the ice surface cleared and ensuring safety considerations.

There is a lack of rink space in the city with many rinks overcrowded and very many rinks with few pleasure skating time slots. Grenadier Pond fills important skating needs in the city and has been a popular skating venue for many decades. Perhaps there are other open frozen ponds with this tradition in other parts of the City.

I look forward to your review of the current policy to look at how Grenadier Pond can be used safely as outdoor ice surface, as well as seeing whether there are any other similar ice surfaces in other parts of the city which are being used by the community in such a way.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher, Chair
Parks and Environment Committee

