



Roncesvalles Village BIA

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Councillor Michael Thompson
 Chair, Economic Development and Culture Committee
 City of Toronto

Monday, July 18, 2011

Dear Councillor Thompson and Members of the Economic Development and Culture Committee:

The Roncesvalles Village BIA recognizes the significant support that the City BIA Office gives to our BIA and the 71 other BIAs across Toronto.

BIAs, as you know, generate a great deal of economic benefit to the City of Toronto. Our own Roncesvalles Polish Festival attracts over 200, 000 visitors from all over Ontario, Canada and the United States and generates millions of dollars in economic activity annually. It is managed by a BIA committee composed of volunteers.

This Saturday we will be celebrating the completion of the renewal of Roncesvalles Avenue. Roncesvalles Renewed, the streetscape improvement project on Roncesvalles Avenue, benefitted tremendously from the input of highly skilled and knowledgeable citizens who volunteered their time freely, often for years, under the banner of our BIA and its partner organizations in our community.

The recent successes of the Roncesvalles Village BIA and its partners—volunteers nearly to a one— would have been difficult to realize without the expertise and support available to us from the City BIA Office. The BIA model, founded in Toronto, engages citizens and challenges them to give their best to their communities.

As a fiscally responsible organization, the Roncesvalles Village BIA applauds the efforts of the City of Toronto to be similarly frugal. As we mind the contributions of our members to our organization, we do expect the City of Toronto to be careful with taxpayer dollars.

The Roncesvalles Village BIA takes seriously its responsibility to spend the money available to it wisely; nevertheless, we do spend it when it is clearly to the benefit of the membership.

The position of our BIA is that the City BIA Office is a valuable benefit to the BIAs of Toronto, which in turn are important partners with the City to improve the economy, culture and beauty of Toronto.

Yours truly,

Tony Cauch
 Chair, Roncesvalles Village BIA