

EX8.1.38

Executive Committee - Core Services Review: HERITAGE

From: "GYRA - The Greater Yorkville Residents' Association" <info@gyra.ca>
To: "Executive Committee City of Toronto" <exc@toronto.ca>
Date: 07/26/2011 11:36 PM
Subject: Core Services Review: HERITAGE

GYRA

THE GREATER YORKVILLE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
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Mayor Ford and Executive Committee Members:

The Core Services Review identified funding for heritage to be non-essential and therefore subject to potential cuts. For many Torontonians, GYRA included, who believe the City's heritage assets to be essential, the potential cuts to both the heritage grant program and heritage tax rebate program is most alarming, and would undoubtedly result in an increase in "demolition by neglect" to heritage properties.

The Heritage Toronto mandate "to represent community input on the heritage affairs of Toronto to the City" is of great importance to our organization. GYRA has collaborated with Heritage Toronto on several occasions regarding heritage promotion in the form of plaques recounting events of the past, which has shaped Toronto, and is a living legacy for future generations.

Continued and stable funding for HERITAGE is vital to preserve, educate, and promote our heritage assets. The City of Toronto is the guardian of these assets, and must carefully weigh the ensuing loss if cuts are made to shave a few dollars off the projected shortfall. If cut, the \$0.9 million Heritage Toronto budget, for example, would reduce the projected shortfall from \$774 million to \$773.1 million. And, the City must be prepared to assist in securing alternate funding to ensure the survival of heritage.

Gee Chung
President

THE GREATER YORKVILLE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

c.c. GYRA Executive Committee
William N Greer
Heritage Toronto
Councillor Wong-Tam