



## Councillor Chin Lee

Scarborough Rouge River – Ward 41



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**To: The Parks and Environment Committee**

**From: Councillor Chin Lee**

**Re: Banning of Hazardous Kite Strings and Regulating/Enforcing Kite Fighting Activities in All City Parks**

Dear Councillor Kelly, and members of the Parks and Environment Committee:

Recently I've been contacted by a number of local residents and the Principal of a local school concerned about the proliferation of dangerous kite strings in their area due to kite fighting activity:

*"I am writing to inform you that one of our teachers discovered several lengths of kite string in our school yard. We back onto a City of Toronto park which is also accessed by Macklin Public School. . . the string is used for fighting kites and contains ground glass. If it should become entangled around a child's feet, it could cause a serious injury."*

**Paula Chambers**  
**Principal, Divine Infant Catholic School**

Given that the goal of kite fighting is to sever an opponent's kite string, it's entirely foreseeable that allowing this type of activity to go unchecked in City Parks will result annually in thousands of metres of hazardous kite strings being strewn throughout our parks, streets, other public lands and private properties in our populated urban areas where they can easily injure people, kill wildlife, damage private property and impede parks maintenance.

My goal in this matter is not stop people from enjoying the recreational past time of kite flying, or necessarily even kite fighting, but rather to ensure that kite flying activities in City parks are conducted in a responsible manner that respects the rights of property owners, the safety of Torontonians and the health of local wildlife.

Recommendation:

That the Parks and Environment Committee:

1. Request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation consider the issue of regulating of kite fighting and the banning of hazardous kite strings in City parks.

I thank you for your consideration of my request and look forward to speaking to this matter at the Parks and Environment Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Chin Lee  
Ward 41 – Scarborough Rouge River

COPY: Councillor Cesar Palacio, Chair, Licensing and Standards Committee  
Kelly McCarthy, Committee Administrator, Parks and Environment Committee