



## City Council

### Notice of Motion

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| MM24.18 | ACTION |  |  | Ward:43 |
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### **Guildwood Park and Gardens National Historic Site Designation - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Doug Ford**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.  
\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

#### **Recommendations**

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Doug Ford, recommends that:

1. Toronto City Council support the application to the Federal Government of Canada to designate the Guildwood Park and Gardens a National Historic Site with national significance.

#### **Summary**

The Guild site was acquired in 1978 from Spencer Clark for waterfront trail and shoreline conservation reasons. When the site first came into public ownership 30 years ago, it was considered one of the most preferred hotel locations in Canada. As a notable Canadian landmark steeped in the arts and history, the Guild site hosted many national and international dignitaries and on occasion hosted Provincial and Federal cabinet retreats.

Located at 201 Guildwood Parkway, the Guildwood Park and Gardens was the arts activity of the “Guild of all Arts” attracted people to visit or stay at this beautiful site on the Scarborough Bluffs overlooking Lake Ontario. Nestled on the banks of the Scarborough Bluffs, the site is a "planned", unique community with all the streets centered around the Guildwood Park and Gardens. Within the site sits the Ousterhout Log Cabin, the oldest log cabin in Scarborough built in 1795 by Augustus Jones who was commissioned by John Graves Simcoe first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada to survey Scarborough. William Ousterhout later received the first crown grant of land from King George III in 1805. The Guildwood grounds were later used as an artists colony.

The designation as a National Park is strongly supported by the community. The guidelines set out by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada a commission under the Government of Canada fit the Guild site to be deemed a National Park, as the park has historical significance, it houses many significant historical façades relevant to the Canadian Government and City of Toronto.

In 1942, during World War II the Government of Canada requisitioned the property and buildings for the purpose of training and housing the Women's Royal Naval Service (WRENS). In 1945 the property was requisitioned again as a military hospital specializing in the treatment of nervous disorders and mental illnesses relating to the war. It was then known as 'Scarborough Hall'.

(Submitted to City Council on June 6 and 7, 2012 as MM24.18)

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM24.18

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