

Submitted by Councillor McConnell
MM24.3.3

Pam McConnell

 **TORONTO**

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7 June 2012

Announcement of Donation to Preserve Far Enough Farm *Centreville Amusement Park to Donate and Offers Matching Funds*

TORONTO – Councillor Pam McConnell announced today that Centreville Amusement Park is joining with residents in raising money to help keep Far Enough Farm operating through the year.

"There has been a great deal of support in saving Far Enough Farm," said Councillor McConnell. "We have received petitions with thousands of signatures from across the city and there has been a growing mobilization to find the funds to keep the Farm in operation. Today's announcement of a substantial donation from Centreville Amusement Park gets the fundraising off to a big start."

Centreville Amusement Park, which operates the children's amusement area next to Far Enough Farm on Centre Island, has committed to \$30,000 to continue the operation of the farm. Centreville Amusement Park will also match dollar-for-dollar funds raised from residents up to an additional \$30,000.

"Far Enough Farm is a very important part of the Island experience and a favourite destination for families," said Bill Beasley, President of Beasley Amusements, which operates Centreville Amusement Park. "I am happy to partner with residents to preserve this important attraction that is the source of so many wonderful memories."

A Member Motion (MM24.3), moved by Councillor McConnell and seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, to provide transitional support for Far Enough Farm will be considered by City Council today. The motion recommends receiving donations to fund operations at Far Enough Farm and for the City to continue operations until it can be included in an upcoming tender.

"Residents are hard at work on fundraising efforts for the farm," said Councillor McConnell. "I am confident that they will be successful in saving this cherished attraction, and I'm certain my colleagues on Council will support their efforts."

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Contact: Glenn Gustafson, Executive Assistant to Councillor McConnell 416-392-7916

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CENTREVILLE
AMUSEMENT PARK
TORONTO ISLANDS

Jim Hart
General Manager
Parks, Forestry and Recreation
City Hall, 4th Fl, West Tower
100 Queen Street W.
Toronto

June 7, 2012

Hi Jim,

I am writing to confirm that Beasley Amusements on behalf of Centreville will donate \$30,000 to be used to keep Far Enough Farm on Centre Island open for the remainder of the 2012 season.

Beasley Amusements will also donate an additional \$30,000 in matching funds to any other private donations made to Far Enough Farm this year. This is conditional upon City council agreeing to keep the farm open for the remainder of the 2012 season.

The farm is an important public attraction on Centre Island that has provided families in Toronto and the GTA with many happy memories. It is our hope that with this donation Beasley Amusements continues to show its commitment to making the Toronto Islands a world class attraction for all residents and visitors of southern Ontario.

It is our hope that the farm and other park services will continue to grow and improve as we move forward with our operations on Centre Island. I look forward to hearing from you soon,

Bill Beasley