

**Ward 13**

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June 20, 2014

To: Chair and Members of the Parks and Environment Committee

Re: Community Gardens

From: Councillor Sarah Doucette

On the City of Toronto website it states "A community garden is a place where people grow and maintain various types of plants. Community gardens provide access to land for people who may not have land of their own. Also, community gardens appeal to people who enjoy fostering community and wish to see their local neighbourhood beautified. It is an excellent way to celebrate Toronto's unity in diversity through shared visioning and ongoing participation." Recognising the social and environmental value of Community Gardens, City Council in 1999 endorsed the community Garden Action Plan, which seeks to establish a community garden in every ward by the year 2003. I would like an update on the city's progress to date on ensuring that this community garden initiative continues to move forward. It is for this reason that I ask Parks and Environment Committee:

1. Request City staff report on the number of established community gardens in the city and that this information be broken down by ward. I would ask that this report include the number of applications currently still in process, also broken down by ward.
2. Report back to Parks and Environment by August 15, 2014.

Thank you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Doucette". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sarah Doucette