



Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests

Improving city life one tree at a time

July 6, 2015

To: Ms. Marilyn Toft, Manager
Council Secretariat Support
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Re: MM8.1 – Request to Protect 250 year old Red Oak Tree at 76 Coral Gable Drive
City Council Meeting No.8 - July 7, 2015

Dear Mayor John Tory and Members of Council,

I am writing on behalf of LEAF – Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests with respect to the Red Oak tree at 76 Coral Gable Drive in North York. It has come to our attention that this significant tree is at risk and in need of protection.

As the largest and oldest Red Oak in Toronto (and possibly all of Ontario), this tree has shown incredible resilience, having survived tough conditions through the years. This Red Oak has been designated as a Heritage Tree under Forests Ontario's Heritage Tree program, which recognizes it as a notable specimen based on historical, cultural, biological, ecological and aesthetic criteria.

This particular tree also holds an important tie to Canada's history, located as it is in such close proximity to the Carrying Place Trail. Furthermore, the tree's cultural significance cannot be overlooked, given the many contributions made to our country by the various individuals who owned the tree throughout its long life.

LEAF is in support of requesting that:

1. Council secure the protection of this significant Red Oak tree, including the direction of staff to initiate the acquisition of the property.
2. Council initiate the process to protect this site as a cultural and natural heritage site as recognized in the Heritage Act under Cultural Heritage Landscapes and be designed as such with the City Clerk.

We strongly believe this tree is worthy of preservation, and appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Melissa Williams
Program Manager
LEAF – Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests