

## ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Marilyn Toft, Manager Council Secretariat Support Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St. West Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2

## RE: MM8.1 Request to Protect a 250 Year Old Red Oak Tree

The Ontario Historical Society is writing in support of the City of Toronto's motion to protect the 250+ year old red oak tree located in North York at 76 Coral Gable Drive. This magnificent tree, potentially the largest and oldest red oak in Toronto, is designated as a Heritage Tree under Forest Ontario, and its location beside the historic Toronto Carrying Place Trail makes it a important living monument to both Toronto's rich history and to the history of Ontario.

I had the privilege of first visiting this tree on October 16, 2013 with historian Edith George, and along with numerous Ontario Historical Society staff, members, and volunteers who have visited it before and since, can bear witness to the tree's incredible scale and significance to the history and natural heritage of this province.

The Ontario Historical Society calls on the City of Toronto Mayor and Members of Council to take this historic step to protect the red oak tree by obtaining the property at 76 Coral Gable Drive and by designating the site as a cultural and natural heritage site.

Yours sincerely,

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Executive Director

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