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4100 Illinois Route 53  
Lisle, IL 60532-1293

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October 15, 2015

City Clerk  
City Hall  
100 Queen Street. W.  
Toronto, ON M5H2Nw  
Canada

Re: Protection of significant red oak at 76 Coral Gable Drive

Dear City Clerk,

Please accept this letter in support of preservation and protection of the significant red oak located at 76 Coral Gable Drive in Toronto.

As a tree planting and conservation organization, we affirm that special attention and protection should be provided to heritage or significant trees –trees that are long-lived or have a history and/or affinity in the area. Trees take a long time to reach maturity. Landowners and managers should preserve and protect these trees so they can continue to be an asset to the community, whether on public or private land.

Trees form a collective community asset—the urban forest—which forms an interconnected network of community benefits provided to all who live and/or work in the community – regardless of ownership. Trees form the aesthetic, environmental, and physical, framework for a community and contribute to human physiologic and emotional health. They improve property values, improve business districts, reduce energy usage, improve psychological and physical wellbeing, improve water and air quality, and reduce flooding. The Arboretum also recognizes that landowners and managers have goals and objectives that may impact the life and health of trees within their properties.

Working on behalf of trees, The Morton Arboretum supports efforts to preserve and protect the urban forest, providing resources for communities and organizations to make well informed decisions under their unique and specific circumstances. We encourage ongoing conversation - especially of heritage or significant trees.

Sincerely,

Lydia Scott

Director, Chicago Region Trees Initiative