



## Ward's Island Recreation Association

20 Withrow Street, Ward's Island, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2C4

April 8, 2015

Councillor Pam McConnell  
Ward 28, Toronto Centre-Rosedale

Attn: Tom Davidson, Constituency Assistant

Dear Tom,

The Wards Island Recreation Association is starting preparations for this year's annual Gala Day celebrations. As in previous years, we are requesting a letter from Councillor McConnell's office confirming that Gala Day should be designated a Community Festival of Municipal Significance.

The Ward's Island Recreation Association is a registered not-for-profit organization established in 1913 to provide its members with access to amateur sport and social events held in and around our heritage clubhouse, built in 1937. When not being used for WIRA member activities, the clubhouse facilities are available for rent by the public for weddings and other events. The WIRA is managed by volunteers from the surrounding communities of Ward's and Algonquin Islands.

Gala Day is a longstanding tradition, a time when present and former Islanders gather at the Wards Island clubhouse. It is held every summer on the August long weekend (July 31 – August 3, 2015), beginning with our annual Fire Parade on Friday evening and continuing throughout the weekend with a Beer Garden on the clubhouse green, a Saturday night dance, adult and youth games, a Children's Midway, a masquerade, tennis and baseball tournaments and Bingo. All events are open to the public, and only the evening events (Bingo and the dance) charge admission.

This season, in partnership with the Toronto Parks Department, we will also be celebrating the completion of our Willow Square / Community Mosaic project with the installation of the restored historic Landing Stage.

If you need any further information, please let me know.

Best wishes,

Alison Gzowski, WIRA President

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