From:	Khash Khavari
To:	<u>Clerk</u>
Subject:	URGENT - January 31st Meeting of Council - Agenda Item MM24.5 - Objection to Liquor Licence
Date:	Monday, January 30, 2017 10:52:18 PM
Attachments:	City of Toronto Objection.pdf
	2017-01-30 - Email to Colin 01.pdf
	2017-01-30 - Email to Councillor Cressy 01.pdf
	2017-01-30 - Email to Councillor Cressy 02.pdf

Dear Members of City Council,

I am writing to respectfully request a hold on hearing item "MM24.5 - objection to liquor license". This item is a motion brought forward by Councillor Cressy and seconded by Councillor Perks relating to objection to a liquor license application put forward by Atlas Restaurant. I would like to ask you to delay hearing this motion until Atlas Restaurant has had a chance to discuss this matter with Councillor Cressy.

I was informed of this agenda item at around 11:30am on Monday January 30th. No prior notice was provided to anyone in my company until that point in time. I was forwarded the objection letter of Councillor Cressy which is attached here for your records by an AGCO representative. I have since attempted to connect with Councillor Cressy and his staff by calling his office and sending multiple emails. Attached to this email are copies of emails sent to Mr. Cressy and his staff. Unfortunately, I have been unsuccessful in getting a response as of yet.

The liquor license application in question is for Atlas Restaurant, with no Patio or outdoor dining space, and with only 31 seats. I and my team own and operate two other restaurants, namely Cava Restaurant and Chabrol Restaurant. All our restaurants are family oriented small establishments and Atlas will follow the same structure. There will not be any negative impact on the neighbourhood. In fact Atlas will be a great addition and improvement to the neighbourhood by bring some much needed fine family dining to the community.

Hearing this motion without providing an opportunity for Mr. Cressy and myself to discuss any concerns, would have a huge negative impact on my business. I not only have to worry about my own business but protecting my employees who have been hired and are eager to begin work to support their families. Undue delay in obtaining the liquor license will be negatively impacting the business and those involved.

I beg the Council to delay hearing this motion until I have had a chance to at least listen to the concerns of Councillor Cressy and try to address them.

Best Regards, Khash

CAVA RESTAURANT

President 1560 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4T 2S9

Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca

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intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please do not read, distribute or take action in reliance upon this message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and promptly delete this message and all its attachments from your computer system.



January 15, 2017

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario 90 Sheppard Ave E, Suite 200 Toronto, ON M2N 0A4

Re: Atlas Restaurant 16-18 Dupont St, Toronto ON AGCO File No. 818535

Dear Sir or Madame,

Please be advised that I will be bringing a Motion to Toronto City Council on January 31, 2017, objecting to the Liquor License for the above location.

The Premises is located on Dupont St, in a residential neighbourhood and adjacent to Sgt. Ryan Russell Parkette. These are sensitive uses that may be impacted by the Premises. Considering the proximity to sensitive uses, the application for the licence should not be granted unless suitable conditions are placed on the licence to prevent impacts on the neighbouring community.

My Motion will request the following:

- The City Clerk advise the Registrar of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) that the issuance of a liquor licence for Atlas Restaurant, 16-18 Dupont St, is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents unless conditions are placed on the licence and that the Registrar should issue a Proposal to Review the liquor licence application;
- 2) Recommend that the AGCO be requested to provide the City of Toronto with an opportunity to participate in any proceedings with respect to the Premises; and
- Authorize the City Solicitor to attend all proceedings before the AGCO in this matter and be directed to take all necessary actions so as to give effect to this Motion, including adding conditions to any liquor licence issued for the Premises.

Sincerely,

Joe Cressy City Councillor Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

Bcc: Eileen Costello ecostello@airdberlis.com

Good afternoon Councillor Cressy,

I trust you are having a great day.

I received an email from AGCO this morning informing me of two objections to the liquor license application for Atlas Restaurant at 18 Dupont street.

The first objection was filed by Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, who had expressed concerns about the type of impact Atlas Restaurant would have on the neighbourhood given their negative experience with the Mexican tequila bar at 14 Dupont Street. Based on my conversation with Mr. Pollard they have been having a stressful experience with the tequila bar and they were curious about the type of operation Atlas Restaurant was planning to carry out next door.

I informed Mr. Pollard, that Atlas Restaurant was a new venture for me and my team, who also own and operate Cava Restaurant and Chabrol Restaurant. As it turns out Pollards are clients of both of my other restaurants and are very familiar with the high level of service we offer and the discerning clientele we serve. Having discussed the details of the plan at Atlas Restaurant, Pollards were happy and welcomed addition of Atlas Restaurant to the neighbourhood. To that effect Mrs. Pollard sent the attached email earlier today retracting their objection to the liquor license. I believe you were copied on the email exchange and the original emails with their concerns raised to AGCO.

I understand that you have also expressed concerns about Atlas Restaurant's application for liquor license. I would like to take this opportunity to address those concerns and arrange to meet with you either via phone or in person to assure you that Atlas Restaurant will not be having a negative impact on the neighbourhood and will in fact be a great addition. Atlas Restaurant is a high end restaurant focusing on very high quality food from French Moroccan region and service. Just like Chabrol restaurant and Cava Restaurant, Atlas Restaurant will be a place for mature and older clientele who appreciate the art of cooking and enjoy dining with family. I am attaching a few reviews of Chabrol Restaurant and Cava Restaurant from Globe and Mail and Toronto Star for your reference here.

In addition Atlas Restaurant will not have any patio or outdoor dining space, unlike the other restaurants in the neighbourhood, who may be a source of noise complaints. We believe in small intimate dining rooms that provide a quiet dining experience for our guests. Atlas Restaurant will have a very similar structure and will only accommodate about 30 guests. Almost all of our guests make reservations weeks in advance. We are a neighbourhood restaurant and not an attraction for the younger drinking crowd.

Finally, I personally live with my wife within walking distance of Atlas Restaurant (52 Russell Hill Road) and enjoy walking on Dupont Street, grabbing a coffee at Haute Coffee and playing with my nephew at Sergeant Ryan Russell Park. I can assure you that I would never have Atlas Restaurant have a negative impact on the neighbourhood similar to what has been experienced from the bars around. This neighbourhood is our home and I will make sure it is protected.

I tried to connect with you earlier today by calling your office and requesting a call back from the member of your staff in charge of the file. I understand you have proposed bringing a motion to the City Council tomorrow. I would appreciate a quick call today or even a meeting in person should you have time, to address any other concerns you may have and answer any questions. I am open to conditions that you would like to propose to protect the neighbours as I am one of them.

I look forward to hearing from you. My direct line is 647-861-4228

Best Regards, Khash

CAVA Restaurant Khash Khavari President <u>1560 Yonge Street</u> <u>Toronto, ON M4T 2S9</u> C. <u>647.861.4228</u> Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca

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K

From: IIndsay pollard lindsaympollard@me.com Subject: Re: Atlas Restaurant - 16&18 Dupont

Date: January 30, 2017 at 2:10 PM To: Khash Khavari khash@cavarestaurant.ca

Cc: Ruxandra.llicea@agco.ca, councillor_cressy@toronto.ca

Hello Ruxandra, How are you? Brian and I have discussed the application with Atlas restaurant and feel satisfied that our concerns were answered. We do not oppose their licensing based on what they are planning for the restaurant and the neighbourhood. We are still quite concerned about the next door tequila bar. Though I know this is not the venue for that. Brian mentioned that we could attend the hearing. If that is possible I would like to attend. We would like to continue to be informed of the potential applications for restaurants and development for the area. Ruxandra - would you also appreciate a phone call? Thank you all for your time and efforts in addressing our concerns. Lindsay and Brian Pollard 6 Chicora Ave 416-935-0733 On Jan 30, 2017, at 12:43 PM, Khash Khavari wrote: Good afternoon Lindsay and Brian, I trust you had a great weekend. My name is Khash and I own Atlas Restaurant as well as Chabrol and Cava restaurants. Brian - thank you again for taking the time earlier today to speak to me. I am glad that I was able to address your concerns and questions about Atlas Restaurant. As promised please find below my direct contact information should you require to contact me in the future. Following our conversation I emailed Ruxandra, from AGCO, who is also copied on this email. She has advised me that she needs to hear from you directly regarding your concerns having been addressed and no longer objecting to the license. Would you please reply to Ruxandra at your convenience? I've also copied Councillor Cressy as I noticed he was copied on your communications with AGCO. Thank you again for your time and I do hope to meet you in person very soon. Best Regards, Khash **CAVA Restaurant** President 1560 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4T 259 C. 647.861.4228 Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: All information contained herein is for the exclusive confidential use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please do not read, distribute or take action in reliance upon this message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and promptly delete this message and all its attachments from your computer system.



Novelty hasn't worn at convivial midtown tapas spo Neighbourhood classic Cava has maintained excellence through an ownership change while adding a downtown street

HRIS NUTTALL-SMITH **HE DISH** attallsmith@globeandmail.com

tere was a late dinner rush at ava the other night, on a ay evening in the doldrums mer when the subways felt and Yonge Street was hen midtown had other-apleted its annual north-pleted its annual northration to lakes Joe and nd to Georgian Bay ed in 2006; that makes t, in restaurant years. of the place should ive passed. was this rush, these urty of eight in the ell-heeled quartets ult-and-pepper tes of Bennington cous young couat 9 p.m. re restaurant to pretend not to



trawn all other, far rart, humility,

The 'supergilda' and the eggplant and queso fresco, behind, are menu highlights. JENNIFER ROBERTS FO

seared to honeyed sweetness and

CHRIS NUTTALL-SMITH THE DISH nuttallsmith@globeandmail.com

The whisking seemed a little much. Doug Penfold, the chef id co-owner at Chabrol, a new, sear French spot in Yorkville, is alone in the little bistro's setset sized open kitchen, cook-t a Thursday-night dimer rush on his own. The room was ked, the Burgundy flowing, was firing out first-rate Puy til salads and tartines of rab-ballotines of chicken that the on plates of deep-green wa-ress sauce – somehow he was taken the traffer for the tarte nonther order for the tarte nomes would come in. I see him pause. And then thisking, It felt like a dare-juggling act, and the jug-assistant wouldn't stop gin knives. g in knives

brol's tarte aux pommes is in rounds of fine puff pas it Mr. Penfold rolls out by ach morning, from flour fort and wagonloads of -style butter. He stacks -style butter. He stacks und with apple, dusts it gar, tops it with a knob of Creamery's extra-high-fat nd bakes it to order until pastry's ultralight layers ssy and buttery-golden apple slices darken to unel bliss. That would be for anyone, I'd imagine, rol's tarte aux names rol's tarte aux pommes es with a jug of Calvados and sabayon is always e to order. And so the of egg yolks, sugar and ndy over gentle heat to froth, several times a middle of service. I v how Mr. Penfold does who tries that tarte s will be forever gratedoes. inoff of Cava the



Above, Chef Doug Penfold's tarte aux pommes with Calvados sabayon and tartine of cured trout with chervil. Top right, roasted squash salad with frises, shallot, tarragon and Champagne vinaigrette. Photos BY KEVIN VAN PAASSEN FOR THE GLOBE AND NAIL

DISHING IT CHABROL *** 90 Yorkville Ave., (at Bellair

Street) 416-428-6641 chabrolrestaurant.com

Atmosphere: A minuscule and friendly space set back from the street, with a frenetic open





2016-02-20 -Globe...iew.pdf



The Narnia of Toronto restaurants RICHARD LAUTENS PHOTOS/TORONTO ST

Chabrol **** (out of 4) Address: 90 Yorkville Ave., 416-428-6641, chabrol restaurant.com Chef: Doug Penfold House: Daily: noon to 10 p.m. Hours: Daily, noon to 10 p.m. Reservations: Yes Wheelchair access: No Price: Lunch for two with wine, tax and

AMY PATAKI T CRITIC

The tiny restaurant is there, past the ack of \$145 T-shirts.

Chabrol, open since last November, hares space with La Boutique Noire, Yorkville clothing store that reced Le Trou Normand. The clothasked Cava's Doug Penfold and ll McCotter to take over the small in the back.

was thinking New York-cafés-fancy store. We saw somedifferent," says Penfold. result is the Narnia of Toronto

rants, a closet-size space that p to a wider, more wonderful

om the past rt Decoestheti



Chef Doug Penfold plates a lamb shoulder in the tiny open kitchen area.

another 10 at the bar.

The sound of chef Penfold whisking eggs for a sabayon occasionally floats out of the open kitchen. For him, Chabrol pays tribute to his French cooking mentors.

Great gratins I can't stress enough the

liver mousse (\$14) and the unusual chopped walnut-and-dandelion salad matched with very ripe goat cheese (\$7.50).

Gratins (\$12) are a treat: celeriac layered with cream and breadcrumbs or the see-through potato



The gratins at Chabrol are a treat, Amy Pataki writes.

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with Savoy cabbage and pearl onions. Chabrol, the server tells us, translates as the act of adding wine to the dregs of a dish. He demonstrates by tipping a glug of Corbières into the

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CAVA ****

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Chabrol turns out with

The midtown spot opened nine years ago, making it a forerunner of the current wave of Spanish restaurants. The emphasis is on sharing plates, like hefty rings of squid that are grilled to a perfect char and dipped in a creamy hazelnut romesco sauce, brussels sprouts roasted with sweet-funky black garlic, and the best papas fritas in the city. An extensive, moderately priced list of wines includes a whole page of sherries by the glass. 1560 Yonge St., 416-979-9918. \$\$\$\$ 法风办家

ire to pick off the crust sticking to

the cast-iron casserole. Yum.

Should

come with a straw. Compared

to this old-school effort, crème brù-

lée (\$9) seems dull.

But it's the calisson

baisse variant pronounced

"It's a whole new dish," he r

"tore-ROW."

Good afternoon Colin,

My name is Khash and I own Atlas Restaurant. Councillor Cressy has filed an objection with AGCO relating to the liquor license for Atlas Restaurant. He has also scheduled a motion to be heard tomorrow at the council meeting regarding this matter.

I have sent a couple of emails to request a time to discuss and address any concerns of the councillor and his office with no reply yet. I have now been informed that you may be the person in charge of this file so I am forwarding for your review the two emails below. I would very much appreciate it if you could get back to me as soon as possible.

I am not opening a pub or a bar. I am not opening a hip restaurant with a patio that would cause noise or excess traffic. This is a family restaurant and I have a whole team hired for it who need to start working. I know that some restaurants cause issues within their neighbourhoods and put their business ahead of their neighbours but I live in this neighbourhood. I work in this neighbourhood. I work in this neighbourhood. I would never do anything to devalue my neighbourhood or offend my neighbours.

Please help me. I need to address this issue before it becomes a lengthy and expressive process that could bankrupt the project. My cell is 647-861-4228 and I'm available any time to discuss.

Best Regards, Khash

CAVA

Khash Khavari BASc, MASc President 1560 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4T 2S9 T. 647.861.4228 Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Khash Khavari <khash@cavarestaurant.ca> Subject: Re: Liquor License for Atlas Restaurant - 18 Dupont Street Date: January 30, 2017 at 4:12:32 PM EST To: councillor_cressy@toronto.ca Cc: bgillia2@toronto.ca, Ruxandra.llicea@agco.ca

Good afternoon Councillor Cressy,

My apologies for sending multiple emails today, however, this is an extremely urgent matter for me and my team and I have to followup on my earlier email below to see if we could address your concerns before the council meeting tomorrow. As you are well aware after passing a motion all timelines will be stretched and I will miss the deadline for opening. This will impact, revenue generation, cash flow, and repayment of invested funds, not to mention the most important item, not being able to provide the employees for the project with job security. I have hired chefs, cooks, dishwashers, cleaners, servers and managers for the project who are all eager to get started at their new positions and rely on it to support themselves and their families.

Would you please get back to me at your earliest convenience to discuss and address your concerns and conditions to prevent undue delay?

Best Regards, Khash

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On Jan 30, 2017, at 2:59 PM, Khash Khavari <<u>khash@cavarestaurant.ca</u>> wrote:

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The first objection was filed by Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, who had expressed concerns about the type of impact Atlas Restaurant would have on the neighbourhood given their negative experience with the Mexican tequila bar at 14 Dupont Street. Based on my conversation with Mr. Pollard they have been having a stressful experience with the tequila bar and they were curious about the type of operation Atlas Restaurant was planning to carry out next door.

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CAVA Restaurant Khash Khavari

President <u>1560 Yonge Street</u> <u>Toronto, ON M4T 2S9</u> C. <u>647.861.4228</u> Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca

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CAVA ****

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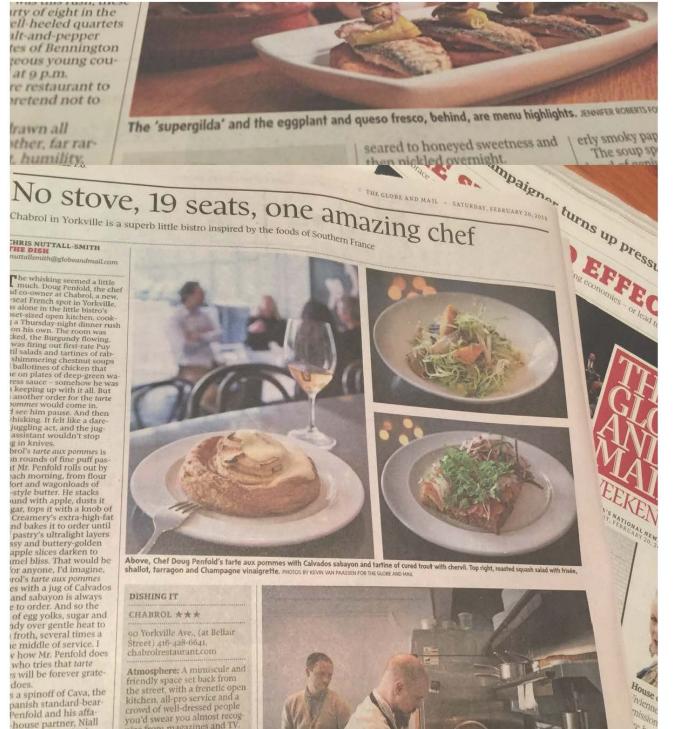


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HRIS NUTTALL-SMITH HE DISH uttallsmith@globeandmail.com

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panish standard-bear-Penfold and his affa-house partner, Niall lso own. They had only to consult on the it's fronted by a siz-which they've yet to ked way back off of enue, in the pintat for the past four known as Le Trou space's owners convert it into a enfold had had the in his head for at ince reading it in a

Wine and drinks: Nice, simple aperitifs and cocktails and a short list of food-friendly French wines that are fairly priced, though not cheap.

you'd swear you almost recognize from magazines and TV

Best bets: Yoic gras, chestnut boup, troat and rabbit tartine, instilla, squash, the lamb, the mushroom and artichoke ragout, all the desserts.

the Spanish midtown restaurant Cava

: hum

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The Narnia of Toronto restaurants RICHARD LAUTENS PHOTOS/TORONTO ST.

Chabrol ***** (out of 4) Address: 90 York ville Ave., 416-428-6641, chabroirestaurant.com Chef: Daug Penifold Hours: Daily: noon to 10 p.m. Reservations: Yes Wheelchair access: No Price: Lunch for two with wine, tax and Price: Lunch for two with wine, tax and

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Great gratins

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liver mousse (\$14) and the unusual eggs for a sabayon occasionally floats chopped walnut-and-dandelion salout of the open kitchen. For him, Chabrol pays tribute to his French ad matched with very ripe goat cheese (\$7.50).

Gratins (\$12) are a treat: celeriac layered with cream and breadcrumbs or the see-through potato slices stacked with buttery cantal. Be sure to pick off the crust sticking to the cast-iron casserole. Yum

Shoulder to sh



The gratins at Chabrol are a treat, Amy Pataki writes.

braised shoulder meat partnered with Savoy cabbage and pearl onions. Chabrol, the server tells us translates as the act of adding wine to the dregs of a dish. He demonstrates by tipping a glug of Corbières into the remaining spoonfuls of "ttoro" (\$29), a bouillabaisse variant pronounced

"It's a whole new dish," he pro-

disc. The real thrill is the pitcher of calvados sabayon the server pours out in pale yellow ribbons. This is the sauce you hear being whisked from eggs and sugar, so good the pitcher should come with a straw. Compared to this old-school effort, creme brùlée (\$9) seems dull. But it's the calise

From: Khash Khavari khash@cavarestaurant.ca Subject: Re: Liquor License for Atlas Restaurant - 18 Dupont Street Date: January 30, 2017 at 4:12 PM To: councillor_cressy@toronto.ca Cc: bgillia2@toronto.ca, Ruxandra.llicea@agco.ca Bcc: Eileen Costello ecostello@airdberlis.com

Good afternoon Councillor Cressy,

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CAVA

Khash Khavari BASc, MASc President 1560 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4T 2S9 T. 647.861.4228 Khash@CavaRestaurant.ca

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On Jan 30, 2017, at 2:59 PM, Khash Khavari <khash@cavarestaurant.ca> wrote:

Good afternoon Councillor Cressy,

I trust you are having a great day.

I received an email from AGCO this morning informing me of two objections to the liquor license application for Atlas Restaurant at 18 Dupont street.

The first objection was filed by Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, who had expressed concerns about the type of impact Atlas Restaurant would have on the neighbourhood given their negative experience with the Mexican tequila bar at 14 Dupont Street. Based on my conversation with Mr. Pollard they have been having a stressful experience with the tequila bar and they were curious about the type of operation Atlas Restaurant was planning to carry out next door.

I informed Mr. Pollard, that Atlas Restaurant was a new venture for me and my team, who also own and operate Cava Restaurant and Chabrol Restaurant. As it turns out Pollards are clients of both of my other restaurants and are very familiar with the high level of service we offer and the discerning clientele we serve. Having discussed the details of the plan at Atlas Restaurant, Pollards were happy and welcomed addition of Atlas Restaurant to the neighbourhood. To that effect Mrs. Pollard sent the attached email earlier today retracting their objection to the liquor license. I believe you were copied on the email exchange and the original emails with their concerns raised to AGCO.

I understand that you have also expressed concerns about Atlas Restaurant's application for liquor license. I would like to take this opportunity to address those concerns and arrange to meet with you either via phone or in person to assure you that Atlas Restaurant will not be having a negative impact on the neighbourhood and will in fact be a great addition. Atlas Restaurant is a high end restaurant focusing on very high quality food from French Moroccan region and service. Just like Chabrol restaurant and Cava Restaurant, Atlas Restaurant will be a place for mature and older clientele who appreciate the art of cooking and enjoy dining with family. I am attaching a few reviews of Chabrol Restaurant and Cava Restaurant from Globe and Mail and Toronto Star for your reference here.

In addition Atlas Restaurant will not have any natio or outdoor dining space, unlike the other restaurants in the neighbourhood, who

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may be a source of noise complaints. We believe in small initiate dining rooms that provide a quiet dining experience for our guests. Atlas Restaurant will have a very similar structure and will only accommodate about 30 guests. Almost all of our guests make reservations weeks in advance. We are a neighbourhood restaurant and not an attraction for the younger drinking crowd.

Finally, I personally live with my wife within walking distance of Atlas Restaurant (52 Russell Hill Road) and enjoy walking on Dupont Street, grabbing a coffee at Haute Coffee and playing with my nephew at Sergeant Ryan Russell Park. I can assure you that I would never have Atlas Restaurant have a negative impact on the neighbourhood similar to what has been experienced from the bars around. This neighbourhood is our home and I will make sure it is protected.

I tried to connect with you earlier today by calling your office and requesting a call back from the member of your staff in charge of the file. I understand you have proposed bringing a motion to the City Council tomorrow. I would appreciate a quick call today or even a meeting in person should you have time, to address any other concerns you may have and answer any questions. I am open to conditions that you would like to propose to protect the neighbours as I am one of them.

I look forward to hearing from you. My direct line is 647-861-4228

Best Regards, Khash

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<2017-01-30 - Pollards - Atlas Restaurant.pdf> <Globe and Mail Print.jpg> <2016-02-20 - Globe and Mail Review Print.jpg> <2016-02-20 - Globe and Mail Review.pdf> <2016-02-21 - Toronto Star Print.jpg> <Toronto Life Print.jpg>