

From: [Sara Ehrhardt](#)
To: [Budget Committee](#); [Councillor Burnside](#); [Councillor Campbell](#); [Councillor Carroll](#); [Councillor Crawford](#); [Councillor Di Ciano](#); [Councillor Mihevc](#); [Councillor Nunziata](#)
Cc: [Councillor Fletcher](#); [Councillor McMahon](#); [Angie Law](#); [David Darling](#); [Oriotech Solutions Inc](#); [Natasha Graham](#); [Katharine Harvey](#); [Susan Fletcher](#)
Subject: Funding for S.H. Armstrong Pool in 2018 Budget
Date: Thursday, January 11, 2018 4:40:11 PM
Attachments: [SH Armstrong Pool - Budget Committee Final.pdf](#)

To: Chair and Members of the Budget Committee,

Subject: Funding for S.H. Armstrong Pool in 2018 Budget

We are the community members on the S.H. Armstrong Pool Working Group, a working group that was convened by Council through the 2017 City Budget process with the aim of advising on programming at SH Armstrong Pool.

We are writing to request the reinstatement of funding for S.H. Armstrong Pool through the city's 2018 Budget, in line with Councillor Paula Fletcher's letter to this committee on December 11, 2017 which we have attached for your reference.

Since forming in May 2017 our working group has fostered linkages across our diverse community, city staff and the TDSB to refine aquatic programming at S.H. Armstrong Pool in line with community needs and also to make modest facility improvements in partnership with the TDSB.

As a result, this Fall saw over 550 people register for our community pool, and as many as 400 people are now registered for Winter programming. These numbers are more than double any comparable previous sessions, confirming our community's ongoing interest and commitment in the S.H. Armstrong pool. We are incredibly proud in particular to see the number of young children and vulnerable adults that are now accessing crucial learn-to-swim programming and healthy recreation opportunities.

Through our community outreach, which has included social media and targeted outreach with residents of Toronto Community Housing, staff at the Red Door Shelter and the newly opened Hope Shelter as well as visits to farmer's markets, local businesses, health centres and holding public meetings within our community, we have learned that although our community lies steps from Lake Ontario, there are many who still do not know how to swim, a crucial life skill that we view as a right, not a privilege, of every person in this city.

As outlined in our previous submissions to the Community Development and Recreation Committee (CDRC), we are of the view that city funding to SH Armstrong Pool should be reinstated on a permanent and ongoing basis. The doubling of pool registrations this year is one clear indicator of our community's desire to learn to swim and support for this pool. We feel that continued city investment in this aquatic community hub and shared community resource is an important and cost-effective contribution to enhancing the safety and quality of life for the many and diverse residents of our community.

We thank you for your support.

Yours truly,

The community members of the SH Armstrong Pool Working Group:

Sara Ehrhardt, community co-chair

Shawn Pinto (Hope Shelter liaison)

David Darling

Natasha Graham

Katharine Harvey

Angie Law

Applegrove Community Complex

(sent via email)



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**

Councillor Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

December 11, 2017

To: Budget Committee

Re: Parks, Forestry and Recreation
The Little Pool That Could – SH Armstrong

Dear Chair and Members,

The work that the community has done around SH Armstrong Pool is truly amazing. When given a chance to show their commitment and capacity to grow the programming at this pool they responded in spades. Through dedication and hard work, social marketing, outreach and collaboration with city staff they have:

- raised the utilization rate from 69.4% to over 90%
- tailored the programming to meet local interests and needs
- continued to offer unique programming such as the popular "women only" swim
- successfully had the pool temperature increased
- created stronger working relations between the City and the TLC
- engaged the broader community through social media and marketing
- met with the Tenant Council to promote the pool to TCH residents
- met regularly with city aquatic staff and the SH Armstrong Pool Working Group
- ensured the pool gallery renovation was undertaken and completed

The pool was included in the fall winter program and the registrations are higher than ever before.

I am writing to ask you to support the full reinstatement of the pool in the 2018 budget. It will not be listed in the annual Fun Guide which means that once again the community will have to take extraordinary steps to fill this pool so the earlier they can start their outreach the better.

Please give them the support they deserve by including the \$139.6 in the 2018 budget.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher

c.c. Mayor John Tory
Deputy City Manager Giuliana Carbone
Leslieville Community

