



Norm Di Pasquale, Ward 9 TCDSB Trustee



July 15, 2019

Dear Councillors and Mayor,

One of the four ridings I have the distinct pleasure of representing is Toronto Centre, which includes St. James Town.

Last year when the 650 Parliament fire occurred, I knew I couldn't sit by idly as my fellow Torontonians lost the roof over their head. I worked with other local superhero residents to house some of the displaced families and received a commendation from Mayor Tory which I am grateful for.

One of the schools I have the honour of representing is Our Lady of Lourdes, located in St. James Town. After the fire at 650 Parliament, over 100 hundred students were displaced. Some families had to relocate and permanently, leaving our caring Catholic community and breaking our collective hearts. Our schools came together and raised funds to clothe and equip our affected students, so they could continue on their path to graduation, which I had the pleasure of recently witnessing.

My experiences during the various building emergencies in St. James Town has convinced me of the fact that a Neighbourhood Improvement Area designation is crucial to support these residents who have already endured too much over this past year. St. James Town needs support and resources to overcome the incredible adversity thrust upon them as of late. If this community is to thrive again, it must feel the support and care from fellow concerned Torontonians, and a Neighbourhood Improvement Area is an important step in that direction.

Thanks and God Bless,

Norm Di Pasquale