



HighParkNature.org
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November 16, 2020

Mayor John Tory and Members, City Executive Committee
City Hall, Toronto

Re: Item 18.12: Manual for Stewardship

Dear Mayor Tory and Councillors,

We wish to express our support for Councillor Pasternak's motion requesting that City Parks, Forestry, and Recreation review the draft Stewardship Manual prepared by students in the University of Toronto's Forestry Program and the Toronto Ravines Revitalization Science consortium.

This draft manual supports previously approved Council motions and reports that call for greater participation in stewardship of Toronto's ravines and other natural areas by local citizens who are suitably trained and supervised.

These ravines and natural areas provide valuable ecosystem services to residents of the city and habitat for flora and fauna. There is an urgent need to both protect and restore them for generations to come. Expanding the role of volunteer stewards will help address this pressing need.

Yours truly,

Karen Yukich and Leslie Gooding
Co-Chairs, High Park Nature

c.c. Councillor Gord Perks