



Friday, November 6, 2020

Toronto and East York Community Council
City Hall, Committee Room 1
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair and Council Members,

**Re: Request for Report on Applications for an Encroachment Permit and Partial Patio
Enclosure at 585 Church Street**

The COVID-19 pandemic has struck many small businesses hard as owners adapt their services, and provide an enjoyable customer experience under strict health guidelines. We have seen many small businesses in the Downtown close due to small square footage and restrictions on indoor dining. While emergency programs like CafeTO have provided some relief, businesses cannot afford the steep Downtown rent.

Like many other special character neighbourhoods, Church Wellesley Village has been hit particularly hard. Many long-standing businesses have been forced to shutter their doors completely. Church Espresso, located at 585 Church Street is a small cafe with very limited seating indoors with an existing outdoor patio on city-owned land. In order to make this outdoor option more hospitable into the cooler season, they have applied for a partial enclosure permit as well as an encroachment permit on the public right-of-way.

Due to the time-sensitive nature of the pandemic, and continual loss of revenue, it is critical that this report is brought to Toronto and East York Community Council immediately.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. The Toronto and East York Community Council direct the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards and Chief Building Official in consultation with the City Solicitor, General Manager of Transportation Services, and any other relevant city divisions to report their recommendations directly to the December 2, 2020 meeting of the Toronto East York Community Council on the applications for encroachment permits and partial patio enclosures from the owner of 585 Church Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Ward 13, Toronto Centre