

Newsletter #16

JOINT DECLARATION SUPPORTED BY 6 COMMUNITY GROUPS

This week the City of Toronto officially declared its refusal to cooperate with the Ontario Government to choose an alternate site in Willowdale to place prefabricated single housing units for homeless persons. A site that respects the rights of the elderly to their protected parklands at the Willowdale Manor Seniors care home property.

Despite that **SIX COMMUNITY groups and RATEPAYER ASSOCIATIONS** have officially indicated that there are serious problems with site selection

Voices of Willowdale

Silview Community Association

Bayview Cummer Neighbourhood Association

Bayview Woods Neighborhood Association

Bayview Valley Ratepayers Association

Seniors at Willowdale Manor

These six significant community groups support a [Joint Declaration](#) (see green box below) highlighting the serious and valid concerns at this particular site where the Willowdale Manor and Cummer Lodge seniors live.

And yet John Filion and City officials continue to ignore the thousands of voices in this community. Despite not being granted an MZO, we are shocked to see the Office of the Mayor, John Tory support the notorious Councillor John Filion and Ana Bailão to insist on stealing these cherished parklands that were protected by a 1998 OMB decision that held they were an amenity for the seniors in the home. You will read that they want to dig their heels in further and continue with the municipal rezoning process. Perhaps our Councillor Filion can't hear us because he lives so far away from Willowdale now. Does anyone have a megaphone? It's astonishing to see how regular residents who live in this community can't be heard through the 1-sided and biased media articles and advocacy from special-interest groups. We thank MPP Stan Cho for actually listening to his constituents and giving us faith in democracy.

These City officials playing political games with the Province know full well that they are wrong. They demonstrate a sinister double standard at City Hall. Why do we say that? Because there is a seniors home in Toronto's upscale Yorkville neighbourhood called Belmont House. It houses a who's who of rich establishment folks. Decidedly non-ethnic. And the City has repeatedly gone to bat for those seniors to protect them from "shadows" falling into their sunny open green courtyard. [\(See blue boxes below\)](#)

Yet officials think nothing of completely wiping out the parklands of ethnic non-English speaking seniors living in Willowdale Manor, in the working class Newtonbrook neighborhood.

This is an extraordinarily inappropriate double standard. Willowdale Manor's seniors deserve at least equal protection as those of Belmont House.

REFERENCE LINKS for further reading in BOXES below

- [Joint Declaration by community groups](#)
- [Meet the real John Filion, controversial bully](#)
- [City of Toronto defends Yorkville Belmont House seniors but not Willowdale Manor seniors](#)

[Read JOINT DECLARATION by community groups](#)

[Meet the Real John Filion, Controversial Bully](#)

[City of Toronto defends Yorkville Belmont House seniors from shadows, why not Willowdale Manor seniors?](#)

[Development compromises Belmont House Seniors' quality of life](#)

