



July 6, 2022

Chair McKelvie and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee
c/o Matthew Green
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair McKelvie and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

Re: Item IE31.6 - Entering into a Fundraising Agreement and Management Agreement with Friends of Allan Gardens

The Friends of Allan Gardens ("the Friends") is a volunteer-based registered charity operating out of Allan Gardens that facilitates a range of community programming focusing on horticulture and the natural environment. The Friends are also working to advance the revitalization of Allan Gardens as set out in "Refresh: Unlocking the Opportunity to Revitalize Allan Gardens" a vision for Allan Gardens Park and Conservatory ("Refresh"). Refresh was formally adopted by City Council in 2018.

The purpose of this correspondence is to express our strong support for the recommendations of the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation as set out in the report, "Entering into a Fundraising Agreement and Management Agreement with Friends of Allan Gardens".

The Management Agreement for the Children's Conservatory and the Teaching Garden will clearly define the responsibilities of the Friends and the City and will provide a predictable framework for the Friends' continued use and management of these facilities on behalf of the Friends and other community organizations.

The Fundraising Agreement is fundamental to the advancement of certain capital projects envisioned in Refresh. We are excited to work with our donors, the City and the community to see these projects come to life.

We value our existing relationships with local organizations and celebrate our collaborations including, most recently, a garden project with Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Employment and Training and Toronto Metropolitan University. We seek to build upon these relationships and foster new ones as we move toward the next stage of Refresh.

We are mindful that Allan Gardens is an important space for many of our City's diverse communities. We aim to carry out Refresh in a good way, which responds to and reflects these communities, in particular the Indigenous community, which has had a continuous presence on these lands since time immemorial.

The Friends wish to thank Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff for their ongoing support and collaboration.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Allan Gardens