



June 27, 2022

*Re. Renaming of Lower Coxwell Avenue*

To Toronto East York Community Council:

Applegrove Community Complex is a multiservice community centre and City agency. Our catchment area spans from Jones Avenue to the west to Woodbine Avenue to the east, and from the railway tracks north of Gerrard Street down to Lake Ontario and includes Lower Coxwell Avenue. For more than 40 years, Applegrove has been providing programs and services that aim to support individuals and families, strengthen the community and build a better city.

The City of Toronto has confirmed its commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through its Reconciliation Action Plan. Though naming and renaming streets, City lands and assets does not fulfill the deeper need for reconciliation, it is an important symbolic action that publicly signals the commitment outlined in the City's Reconciliation Action Plan. It will also help to make the rich Indigenous history in this area come alive.

Emdaabiimok, meaning "where the road goes to the water", is a perfect and poetic name for this stretch of road. To deny this renaming on the grounds of a technicality is simply wrong. In addition, City staff citing "the name might be difficult to pronounce or spell" is unacceptable in Toronto in 2022.

Applegrove strongly supports the renaming of Lower Coxwell Avenue to Emdaabiimok Avenue, and encourages Toronto East York Community Council to do the same at its upcoming meeting.

Sincerely,

Susanne Burkhardt, Executive Director  
on behalf of the Board of Management

60 Woodfield Road, Toronto, Ontario M4L 2W6  
**phone 416.461.8143 fax 416.461.5513 applegrovecc.ca**

CHARITABLE NUMBER: 10671 8943 RR0001