



Indigenous Seniors Helping Seniors (ISHS)

March 7, 2025

Madison Avenue Community Safety Committee

Indigenous Seniors Helping Seniors (ISHS) is an advocacy group of senior tenants living in Wigwamen Inc's, The Terrace at 14 Spadina Road.

We have been advocating for a locked fence in our courtyard for over a year now, as we have witnessed the increasing desperation for those abandoned by the city and province, forced to live rough and survive in whatever ways they can. This has led to an increase in drug use and drinking in our courtyard space. While we encourage the city and province to adopt a harm reduction centred, housing first approach, we also recognize the need for an immediate solution to keep vulnerable senior tenants safe, thus the need for a locked gate and fence.

This feeling was reinforced when there was a stabbing, and ultimately murder of a young man a few weeks ago. Our understanding is he was stabbed during an altercation at our closest park, formerly Paul Martel recently renamed the Indigenous Botanical Gardens. This park has been suffering similar issues to us, with the increased issues of urination, defecation, drinking and drug use from folks frequenting the Madison Avenue Pub.

We encourage the city to install taller fences with locked gates in order to keep the park and its infrastructure safe, and to ensure it can remain a safe and usable space for programming, including the wonderful events put on by The Indigenous Peoples Garden Inc. held there for the community and seniors of The Terrace.

ISHS