

councilmeeting

From: Patrick Tohill <ptohill@crohnsandcolitis.ca>
Sent: March 25, 2025 5:31 PM
To: councilmeeting
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2025.MM28.22 on March 26, 2025 City Council

Categories: Communication (New)

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 26, 2025 City Council meeting on item 2025.MM28.22, Improving Toronto's Public Washrooms - by Mayor Olivia Chow, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

Crohn's and Colitis Canada joins with Toronto Public Space Committee and others in urging Council to vote Yes on Motion **MM28.22 - Improving Toronto's Public Washrooms**. We are grateful for Mayor Chow and Councillor McKelvie's leadership in advancing the motion.

More than 23,000 Torontonians and their families are impacted by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. These lifelong inflammatory bowel diseases cause inflammation of the digestive tract, resulting in severe abdominal pain, diarrhea, fatigue and a frequent need to use the washroom, as many as 20 times daily, in some cases. The city's current lack of publicly accessible washrooms is a source of much anxiety and stress for Toronto's Crohn's and colitis community. Not knowing whether they will be able to find a washroom when the need strikes many Torontonians with these conditions carry changes of clothes or wear adult diapers for fear of having an accident in public.

To raise awareness about the challenges faced by those living with these conditions, Crohn's and Colitis Canada sponsored "Locked Out" a symbolic installation of an "out-of-order" portable toilet across from Toronto's Union Station. Passers-by were encouraged to support our awareness raising efforts on social media and download the GoHere® Washroom Access App, a mobile application which helps users locate washrooms in their area or along their routes of travel.

[CityNews: Where to 'go' in T.O.: Mobile app maps Toronto washrooms available to the public](#)
[NewsTalk1010: Kate Lee at Crohn's and Colitis Canada explains to Moore In The Morning about the urgent need for greater washroom access across the GTA](#)



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Crohn's and Colitis Canada acknowledges the enduring and vibrant presence, culture, history and inherent rights of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit across Canada on whose traditional territories Crohn's and Colitis Canada members live and work. We also acknowledge that Toronto, where our head office is located, is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

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