

**From:** [HelenShumilova](#)  
**To:** [councilmeeting](#)  
**Cc:** [Ukrainians In North York](#); [Svitlana Androshchuk](#); [Liza Dogtieva](#); [Artyom Dogtiev](#); [Councillor Cheng](#); [Sara Hildebrand](#); [Ava Ha](#); [Nataliia Ergen \(UINY Board\)](#) [Ukraine Newcomer Hubby Musician](#); [Olga Pynalyuk](#); [Tetiana Tymoshenko](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2025.MM28.41 on March 26, 2025 City Council  
**Date:** March 26, 2025 12:41:55 PM

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 26, 2025 City Council meeting on item 2025.MM28.41, Feasibility of Establishing an Intercultural Hub or Association of Community Centres at 45-47 Sheppard Avenue East - by Councillor Lily Cheng, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle

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:

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Dear Members of Toronto City Council,

On behalf of Ukrainians in the North York community group, we would like to express our strong support for the proposed Willowdale Intercultural Hub.

As a community organization dedicated to bringing Ukrainians in North York together, most of our members left Ukraine due to war and able to find their first new friends thanks to all the community activities, gathering and classes we run in our community.

We have over 900 members in the group and growing weekly.

We always struggle with space to meet, gather, have our socials, run masterclasses or just hang out.

This is what is missing in our neighbourhood and we have been encouraging this issue since 2022.

See attached the info about our community.

Please help us to have more space in the community to help more people feel connected and cared for as they will also be happy and healthy members of our community and will give back.

Only together we can create a wonderful community where we enjoy to live.

I would also like to mention as a resident of Avondale area, it has been terrible to see our population grow and no community space being built, only condos!!!

We have Avondale school that is extremely over capacity, we need to drive to any

community centre and nothing is walking distance, traffic is insane to get out of the neighbourhood/

Kids can't just walk to any space where they can meet, play games, study, hang out and just enjoy time together as neighbours especially outside of summer time (at least parks are a good option for that).

Thank you so much for your review and consideration.

Helen + UINY Board of Directors

Helen Shumilova

Founder & President

**Ukrainians in North York**

Website: [BLOCKEDukrainiansinnorthyork\[.\]ca](#)BLOCKED

FB group: [www.facebook.com/groups/ukrainiansinnorthyork](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ukrainiansinnorthyork)