



March 23, 2026

Toronto City Council
c/o City Clerk's Office
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Re: Support for 2026.IE27.8, Tree By-law Review Report

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Toronto City Council,

We are writing on behalf of the ABC Residents Association (ABCRA), a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in our neighbourhood by actively engaging with local municipal issues. Our association represents residents of the Yorkville / Ramsden Park community in Toronto, which stretches from Yonge Street in the west to Avenue Road, and from Bloor Street in the north to the CPR tracks.

Toronto's tree canopy is an essential part of our city's environmental health and neighbourhood character. Mature trees improve air quality, provide habitat for wildlife, absorb rainwater to help prevent flooding and make the dense City more livable. We are pleased to see that City Council is at last taking action to protect them.

We urge members of Toronto City Council to support the proposed improvements to the City's Tree Protection by-law, including:

- Reducing the size of by-law protected trees to 20 cm from 30 cm in diameter.
- Increasing fines for illegal tree removal.
- Creating a Distinctive Tree category to protect large community trees (61 cm and greater). Community approval will be required to remove a Distinctive Tree.

These are important measures to protect mature trees that play a critical role in collecting carbon, providing shade protecting slopes, managing stormwater, and sustaining urban biodiversity.

Please support the Staff report including amendments of Councillor Morley and Councillor Saxe. These changes will help protect Toronto's urban forest for future generations.

MH Spence for
The ABC Residents Association
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CC:

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