



May 11, 2026

To: Toronto East York Community Council

Re: Support for the Church Street Pedestrianization Pilot

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing to express Pride Toronto's support for the Church Street Pedestrianization Pilot. This initiative offers an important opportunity to test expanded pedestrian space in the Church-Wellesley Village. The pilot aligns with City priorities such as safer streets, climate action, and improved public space.

Church Street is a highly active and culturally significant area, serving as the heart of Toronto's 2SLGBTQIA+ community. It is home to numerous businesses, organizations, and community spaces that support, celebrate and welcome those who identify as part of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

The Church-Wellesley Village plays a vital role in Pride events and year-round community gathering. By temporarily prioritizing pedestrians, the project can enhance safety, support local businesses, and create a more welcoming and vibrant community hub, while allowing for proper evaluation and community feedback.

I encourage Council to move forward with the pilot and consider its results in future planning for Church Street.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Modeste".

Sherwin Kojo Modeste
Executive Director
Pride Toronto

