

From: [PETER CLUTTERBUCK](#)
To: [Economic and Community Development](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Item 2026.EC27.12 - Advancing Community development through Evidence-based Planning
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Importance: High

Dear Nancy Martins, ECDC Committee Secretary

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the [Oakwood Vaughan Community Organization](#) (OVCO), I wish to express OVCO's endorsement of the submission to the ECDC by the Coalition for Responsible Community development.

As a volunteer-driven non-profit residents' organization, OVCO recognizes the value of community-led planning for the health and well-being of all community members. City allocated resources are critically important to facilitate the engagement of local citizens in shaping equitable and inclusive communities. This kind of investment will build community capacity and serve as a model for how local leadership can work collaboratively and effectively with the municipality to advance social and economic development.

OVCO especially understands the needs but also the opportunities that exist in Little Jamaica, which is proposed as one of the first five social development planning neighbourhoods. After many years of disruption caused by transit construction, Little Jamaica is prime ground for a community-led initiative in Social and Community Development Planning.

OVCO strongly encourages the ECDC to support the recommendations before it in agenda item 2026.EC27.12 and the Coalition's position on the issue.

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