

From: [Joel Klassen](#)
To: [Economic and Community Development](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Agenda item 28.5 Early local registration
Date: May 4, 2026 5:06:17 PM

Dear clerk: please accept the below letter on behalf of Yonge Street Mission for ECDC agenda item 28.5 for tomorrow's meeting:

Dear chair and committee members:

I would like to express the strong support of The Yonge Street Mission for the expansion of the Early Local Registration pilot of Parks and Recreation to 37 free centres across Toronto. Our community development team has been closely supporting the work of the Access to Recreation group in Regent Park for several years, work which has borne fruit in a council-mandated local school swim program and a stakeholder relationship with the Parks, Forestry and Recreation division. When PFR staff introduced the idea of Early Local Registration to Regent Park's to the Access to Recreation group and asked for its input, the sense of joy and satisfaction of group members was palpable. We have seen how beneficial the Early Local Registration has been here and we believe other neighbourhoods would welcome it as a positive action towards building healthy communities. This project addresses a deeply felt need in the Regent Park community and we are confident that it would likewise be welcomed in low income communities across the city. Recreation is such a critical component to the happiness and wellbeing of individuals and the communities they live in.

We commend the City Council for initiating the Early Local Registration pilot project and whole-heartedly support its expansion to the full range of 37 free recreation centres across the city.

Your sincerely,

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