



LYTTON PARK RESIDENTS' ORGANIZATION INC.
Box 45031, 2482 Yonge Street
Toronto, M4P 3E3

February 22, 2017

Chair and Members of the Parks and Environment Committee
Attn: Carol Kaustinen
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

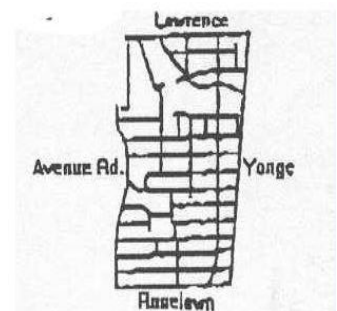
pec@toronto.ca

Subject: PE17.2 - Black Walnut Trees in Toronto

We have read and support the position provided by the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation in their Staff Report dated February 7, 2017 where they were requested to explain the effects of exempting black walnut trees (*Juglans nigra*) from protection under the City's tree bylaws with a focus on both community safety and canopy impacts. On behalf of the Lytton Park Residents' Organization I write to urge you and the city to continue to support and protect our native black walnut trees.

One of LPRO's members Harold Smith has worked with LPRO to produce "in Praise of Black Walnut Trees" which we distributed to our membership and posted on our website. I have attached a copy for your review.

We would ask that instead of destroying a valuable, native to Ontario species, owners of these black walnut trees contact the Toronto Charity "**Not Far From the Tree**" who will come and harvest the walnuts when they mature over a week or two between September and October and distribute to those in need of the incredible high-quality nutrition they have provided to Ontarians since pioneer days. Walnuts are very expensive at the store, but they make an excellent, healthy brain food: Black walnuts contain lots of good fats, such as polyunsaturated omega 3s and monounsaturated fats. Not Far From The Tree's website states that they are picking trees in 15 of Toronto's 44 city wards. They recently called in to the CBC Radio Noon Program offering to relieve a



Toronto Walnut Tree Owner of their harvest with a phone call. Email picks@notfarfromthetree.org or call 647-687-PICK.

In closing, we thank Councillor Doucette for requesting a clarification of the City's Tree By-law as there are many applications submitted for destruction of the Black Walnut trees. We support Urban Forestry's position that one should not be able to destroy a tree because it has become inconvenient; a nuisance caused by falling walnuts for several weeks in the fall. It is one of our native Ontario trees and should only be removed if its condition becomes poor and unsafe.

Sincerely,

Arlena Hebert, President
lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com
<https://lpro.wordpress.com>

Attach: In Praise of Black Walnut Trees.pdf

c.c.: Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry
Janie Romoff, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Daniel Boven, Manager, Forest Policy and Planning, Urban Forestry
Councillor Carmichael Greb, Ward 16 Eglinton Lawrence