



Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division
Richard Ubbens, RPF
Parks Director

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Karen Yukich, Leslie Gooding and Lenka Holubec
High Park Natural Environment Committee
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June 1, 2017

RE: Family Fishing Day & Fishing at Grenadier Pond

Dear Mses. Yukich, Gooding, and Holubec,

Thank you for your letter dated April 18th, 2016 regarding fishing at Grenadier Pond. I understand fishing events will be permitted this year at the Pond. Staff have met with the organizers and reviewed event set-up, event activities and management of such to mitigate the concerns you have raised.

In Richard Ubbens' October 2016 letter to you, we committed to working with stakeholders to promote responsible fishing practices. We have been in conversation with fishing groups who host fishing events and have started a constructive dialogue about how we can promote proper fishing behaviours. As discussed at our stakeholder meeting in September, there was broad consensus that this was the best approach to achieving compliance with code of conduct expectations at fishing locations across the City.

I understand that your overall concerns with fishing at the pond center on fish population structure and perceived negative impacts on other wildlife and the City's responsibility to protect this sensitive habitat for the long term. We share your concern for the ecological integrity of this valuable asset, however, we also recognize that historical, cultural and social uses must also be accommodated in this space. As with all spaces that Parks manages, many uses must be balanced as well as we can.

At this juncture Parks and its partners do not share the concerns you have raised with respect to the comprehensive and detrimental negative impacts on the fish population or wildlife at Grenadier Pond. While there is no doubt that occasionally incidents may occur which negatively impact wildlife, we continue to believe that the fishing activities that are occurring are compatible with the preservation of the natural features and ecological functions of the pond.

We recognize that irresponsible fishing is an issue for both environmental stewardship as well as the promotion of fishing. It is also a concern of angler's groups within the city. We will continue the dialogue we have started with all our stakeholders and Parks, Forestry and Recreation is committed to ensuring all of its obligations are met with respect to balancing all the uses, both human and natural in this important space.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Dann', written in a cursive style.

James Dann, Manager, Waterfront Parks, Toronto

c: Donna Kovachis, Manager, Etobicoke York District
Gord MacPherson, TRCA
Richard Ubbens, Director, Parks