



Trustee
Alexander Brown

Ward 12, Willowdale



Yonge Street Tragedy Commemoration Colouring Sheet and Ceremony (April 23)

Councillor Filion is passing along a colouring sheet developed by the Yonge Street Tragedy Commemoration Committee.

Info on the Artist: The artist is Lisa Rotenberg, who had a home in Willowdale at the time of the Tragedy in 2018. Lisa Rotenberg is also listed with the Art Gallery of Canada. Her website: <http://www.lisarotenberg.com/>

Lisa created this colouring sheet to help teachers facilitate conversations with students about how a community responds to tragedy through acts of heroism, courage, and kindness. She is also adamant that such conversations about the Yonge Street Tragedy in particular can help to end violence against women, which was a primary motivation for the horrible attack down Yonge Street on April 23, 2018 by "John Doe".

Plaques remembering the Yonge Street Tragedy are installed at Olive Square Park and Mel Lastman Square. The language was developed by residents who continue to coordinate the annual commemorations:

"Yonge Street Tragedy

"A horrific tragedy struck Yonge Street between Finch and Sheppard Ave on April 23, 2018. Ten of our own family members, friends, neighbours and colleagues lost their lives, and another 16 were injured. The pain this attack caused will be slow to heal, but the response of love in the midst of tragedy will always be remembered. Our cries of sorrow are slowly being turned into songs of healing."

If a school has any questions then they are encouraged to contact their trustee and/or the Councillor's Office (Jesse James: jesse.james@toronto.ca and the YST Commemoration Committee email: YongeStreetTragedy@toronto.ca



[Clean Willowdale Together on Earth Day weekend \(April 22-24\)](#)

Councillor Filion is pleased to partner with a great group of organizations, including the TDSB (with Trustee Brown) and TCDSB (with Trustee Rizzo), to host a series of events around Earth Day weekend to clean Willowdale's parks, sidewalks, and public spaces.

School clean-ups will happen on Friday April 22, at any time of the day. School principals or parent council members are encouraged to register their school here:

www.johnfilion.ca/events

The Councillor's office will provide each school:

- **garbage & recycling bags**
- **gloves** (*for teachers only...sorry!*)
- **and coordinate the bag pick-up**

If a school has any question then they are encouraged to contact their trustee and/or the Councillor's Office (Jesse James: jesse.james@toronto.ca).

Feel free to use this social media image.



John Filion Community Involvement Awards

It is that time of year again: Councillor John Filion would like to invite you to nominate a graduating student in your school to be awarded the "John Filion Community Involvement Award". This award has been given out annually for the past 23 years! It comes with a personalized letter of congratulations, an official City of Toronto scroll, and a classy pen.

The plan is to deliver the award materials to your school on the week of June 6, 2021 for distribution by the school administration.

Please nominate a student as soon as possible, so that the Councillor's Office can prepare these materials. We cannot accept names after June 1st.

It is very helpful for us to know two pieces of information for your student:

A) Student Name

B) Details about why that student deserves the award. Please consider including:

- School group/committee and/or neighbourhood group/committee the student participated in
- Student's activity that warrants the award
- Who nominated the student (principal or teacher or staff)

Cycling-themed School events

Lots of schools have requested bike racks to be installed through the "Bike Racks for Willowdale Schools" program, in partnership with Trustee Rizzo (TCDSB) and Trustee Brown (TDSB).

For all participating schools I will email the school councils soon with information.

However, all schools are encouraged to organize a bike-themed event to take place during or around the "Bike to School Week" of May 30-June 3.

The Councillor's office (ME!) is working to coordinate these activities so that we can get police on bikes, local parents, teachers, and elected officials to join your kids in some way as you celebrate cycling and the good spring weather.

Reach out if you have any questions!

Bike Racks for Willowdale Schools & Bike-Themed Community Events

Eight schools in Willowdale have requested bike racks to be installed through the "Bike Racks for Willowdale Schools" program, in partnership with Trustee Rizzo (TCDSB) and Trustee Brown (TDSB). There are 20-24 bike racks requested, which will yield between 360 – 432 new bike lock locations in local schools. Nicole Hausman (cc'ed on this message), from the Councillor's office, has been the primary contact over the course of the last several months.

Participating TCDSB Schools:

St. Edward Catholic School: 3 bike racks requested

Brebeuf College School: 4 bike racks requested

St. Cyril Catholic School: 2 bike racks requested

Participating TDSB Schools:

Churchill Public School: 2-3 bike racks requested

Cummer Valley Middle School: 2-3 bike racks requested

Finch Public School: 3-4 bike racks requested

Earl Haig Collegiate Institute: 2-3 bike racks requested

Willowdale Middle School: 2 bike racks requested

Bike-themed events:

As a condition for the program, each school needed to commit to doing a bike-themed event. The Parent/School Council was responsible for leading these events. The Councillor has appointed me to help support and, if needed, to coordinate his engagement with these events.

The suggestion is that these events take place in or near the "Bike to School Week" from May 30-June 3, 2022.

Your participation in these events would be very welcome.

If you have any questions about the BIKE RACKS then please connect with Nicole Hausman. If about the bike-themed community events then reach out to me.

JESSE JAMES (he/him) | **Manager for Community Engagement**

Councillor John Filion's Office | Ward 18, Willowdale

416-338-5298

We acknowledge that we walk upon the traditional territories of the Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, Anishnawbe, Haudenosaunee, Wendat, and Huron Indigenous Peoples, the original nations of this land, who continue to cry out for justice.