

TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
FROM: ANTHONY S. WINDWAR, BSc., MHSc., JD
RE: **TYNDALE PARK AND WILKINS PARK OVERCROWDING**
DATE: AUGUST 2, 2020

Dear Mayor Lehman and Members of Council,

Please include the attached letter in this week's circulation list.

Sincerely,
Anthony S. Windwar

Dear Mayor Lehman and Members of Council,

I write to you as a concerned Barrie resident. I want to convey my strong support for continued efforts to avoid overcrowding at our local parks and beaches. The residents of Barrie have relied on Council to ensure that our parks, beaches, and waterfront spaces are safe, clean, and accessible to all residents. Wilkins Walk and Wilkins Beach, Dock Road, Minet's Point, and Tyndale Park are experiencing significant problems that jeopardize residents' safe access to, and enjoyment of, our beloved outdoor spaces. With out-of-towners visiting Barrie's beaches, I would like to highlight some of our most serious areas of concern and problematic behaviours at Tyndale Park:

- consistent overcrowding and **illegal parking along the roadside**, prompting safety concerns for emergency access.
- **traffic and speeding** which has created undue risk for children and residents.
- on top of over-populating the area, visitors are leaving **excessive garbage** behind.
- clear disrespect and abuse of the grounds and community, including **public urination and defecation**.
- complete **disregard for physical distancing**.
- **littering; alcohol, smoking, and drug use**; and individuals bringing tents and portable BBQ's.

I have reviewed the City By-laws and I am disappointed by the numerous violations and lack of by-law enforcement I have witnessed. Our surrounding neighborhoods were not built for the volumes we are experiencing, and resident safety has been jeopardized as a result. I believe the following actions should be taken to address the problems outlined above, in line with the actions other Townships and Cities have already taken (including the Town of Innisfil, The City of St. Catharine's, and Tiny Township):

- fund an additional By-law Enforcement presence to prevent parking on both sides of the road at the entrance of Tyndale Park.
- support beach patron turnover by encouraging shorter visits.
- temporarily limit access to Tyndale Park to Barrie residents only so we can help limit the risk of spreading COVID-19 in our community.
- mandate that adult beach visitors be required to provide proof of residence in Barrie when accessing beaches.
- install fencing to limit beach access points, increase parking enforcement, enhance signage, and strict enforcement of capacity limits and the deployment of on-site security; and
- Increase parking fines to dissuade visitors from parking in illegal areas.

Community safety should be the Council's top priority. It is critical that Council act urgently to help make our local parks and beachfronts the gathering places the children, teens, adults, and seniors in our community deserve and need. Clear political leadership

and urgent action on these matters is expected from Barrie residents. We know that with your help our parks and beaches can again become a beautiful, clean, and a green place for our community to treasure.

Regards,
Anthony S. Windwar, BSc., MHSc., JD
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