



Robert Land Community Association

460 Wentworth St. N. Hamilton, Ontario L8L 5W8 (905) 526-1558

August 9, 2013

Mayor for the City of Hamilton
Council members
Hamilton, Ontario

Attention: Stephanie Paparella

Re: Robert Land Community Association, Building Permit Application Number 13-109895-00 C3

To: Mayor Bob Bratina and Council Members for the City of Hamilton

Please find the attached information regarding the current status of the Eva Rothwell Resource Centre at Robert Land. The Centre is located in the former Robert Land School in the north central neighbourhood of Hamilton, as established in 2006 by the Robert Land Community Association, a charitable non-profit organization. The Rothwell Centre has been a significant part of the development and support for the Keith neighbourhood, providing and linking various programs and services to the community. The Centre averages over 200 people each day accessing educational, health and wellness, life skills or recreational services and creating jobs. The Organization's mission is to provide programs and services that engage the community to reach their full potential.

The Rothwell Centre was purchased from the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board in 2006 and has been in operation as a community centre since, with full time staff facilitating the services from March of 2007. With the growing need for support, the oft referred challenges of the neighbourhood and challenges faced by the Robert land Community Association, the City of Hamilton has been supportive of the Centre over the years in many facets and we appreciate the ongoing support. Through Paul Johnson's office, the Neighbourhood Action Plan has been a great development in the neighbourhood and will continue to add to the opportunities that are available to the community residents.

We are currently challenged with the Change of Use permit for the various departments of the City, notifying of the change from school institution to community centre. We submitted a Change of Use permit for the various departments of the City, back in 2007 and the land was given the exemption for the change of use and the fees were waived.

As we are working, in partnership with the City, to establish an educational Literacy Centre and to upgrade the facility to be fully accessible, we have encountered numerous challenges with the permits, now at risk of losing the opportunity to install the elevator. These City Development Charges have been assessed as \$822, 409.15 and the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Dedication of \$40,000.00 with the additional Education Development Charges of \$12, 269.20. It is to these charges that we ask the City to waive these development charges for the Robert Land Community Association, as our major focus has been and will continue to be the support and development of the Keith Community. These charges will not only hamper the opportunities that we are currently working on, including the Literacy Express and the accessible elevator, but will challenge the entire existence of the Eva Rothwell Resource Centre. These fees total more than double the annual budget of the association, and will threaten our ability to financially continue.

In closing, we thank the City of Hamilton for your ongoing support of the Eva Rothwell Resource Centre. We anticipate positive results that will continue to benefit the community.

With warm appreciation,

Don MacVicar
Founding President

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