



**BORYS
WRZESNEWSKYJ**

*Member of Parliament
Etobicoke Centre*



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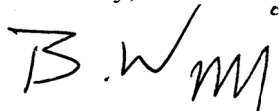
As the Member of Parliament for Etobicoke Centre, I would like to express my opposition to the decision of the Toronto District School Board to prioritize Silver Creek Public School for sale. Our community is acutely aware that the school building currently houses both a pre-school and a school for special needs children. These children are some of the most vulnerable in our community; they are children who require extra support and extra care in order to reach their full potential. The services provided at the Silver Creek site are invaluable to our community and, in many ways, would be irreplaceable should this school be closed and the students forced to move to other educational institutions.

On April 22, I, along with other elected officials in Etobicoke, met with representatives of the TDSB and Public Interest Strategy & Communications, the consulting firm you have hired to assist in the sale of not only Silver Creek but other school buildings deemed surplus to the School Board. I was surprised by the fact that neither quantitative nor qualitative data from site by site comparisons of the twenty-one “surplus” buildings could be provided to clearly justifying why Silver Creek should be among the first five buildings prioritized for sale. Given that Silver Creek is used to provide services to a highly vulnerable group of children, I would ask you to provide clarification as to why this building would be prioritized ahead of others that do not provide unique and irreplaceable services to special needs children. To date, I do not believe that the information provided to

our community with respect to the prioritization of Silver Creek for sale has been sufficient. The fact that this facility provides a vital and unique community service which would not otherwise be available to the residents of Etobicoke should be a primary consideration in all decisions regarding the future of this building.

I would like to express my support for my colleague Mr. Yvan Baker, the Member of Provincial Parliament for Etobicoke Centre, for his efforts in working with the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services to ensure that the services provided by Silver Creek School remain available in our community. Silver Creek is a vital part of our community, helping special needs children to reach their potential to live healthy and productive lives. I would ask that, in all decisions regarding the future of this site, you strongly consider the human cost of any actions and the necessity of the services provided at that location to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Wrzesnewskyj'. The signature is stylized with a large 'B' and a cursive 'Wrzesnewskyj'.

Borys Wrzesnewskyj, M.P.
Etobicoke Centre

cc: Hon. Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education
Hon. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services
Yvan Baker, MPP Etobicoke Centre