

Good evening,

My name is Josh Campbell. I am speaking on my behalf and on behalf of my family and my students. I recognize that this evening I will be speaking from a privileged place. I did not grow up in the Heritage Neighbourhood, but rather moved there with my wife in 2012. Since then we have had two children. We have come to love our neighbourhood. We live on Quebec Street, just a few houses down from Maple Leaf Park. Our daughters have grown up using Maple Leaf Park and Maple Leaf Pool. While I am angry to see the plans for the pool to go, it is not for my family's sake that I am most upset. While it is inconvenient, my family has the means to both travel and pay for swimming in another area of the city. It is the large number of people who don't have those means, that I speak for today. Some of these include people like one of my students who will be speaking with you tonight.

From our backyard, constant cheers can be heard all throughout the summer from the hundreds of kids that use Maple Leaf Pool everyday. Council, I understand that there are safety issues with the pool as it is. What I am asking for first is that given the great hole not having the pool will result in for many children, you consider putting the money into restoring it. And if this is an impossibility, then please consider replacing the recreation area of the pool with something else which can give the kids of this neighbourhood a safe, supervised place where they can enjoy the summer and partake in activities that ALL children of our city deserve.

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