

May 26, 2023

**TO:** Jaydee Cornwall, Supervisor, St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre

**RE:** Exterior Mural at 230 The Esplanade

Dear Jaydee,

The Board of Directors of the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association is pleased to provide this background in support of the proposed joint community project between SLNA and Jamii.

### **The Project**

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA) has partnered with Jamii Esplanade to create a mural for the exterior wall of the St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre at 230 The Esplanade. The mural will serve as a legacy feature and celebratory landmark honouring the SLNA's 40 years of service to the residents of the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood. It will be painted by Indigenous artist Darwin Peters of the Pikangikum First Nation.

### **SLNA's relationship with JAMII**

For thirteen years, Jamii has made good use of our public spaces to provide culturally and socially engaging programs and events for residents of all ages in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood in Toronto's downtown east. The SLNA has partnered with Jamii on a number of its signature projects through the years, including "Celebrating Community" on July 1, 2021. The SLNA has also supported Jamii's local artistic presentations and performances, including the production of "The Wedding" in 2021, and a distinctive series of workshops and activities for seniors in 2022. The SLNA is very proud to be one of Jamii's partners for "The Esplanade Hub" – established in 2023 as a dynamic and creative space for the Community on the Esplanade.

Through artistic presentations and community-engaged projects that reach thousands every year, Jamii engages and reflects the multifaceted and multicultural nature of the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. The organization's programming – performances, workshops and interactive sessions – attracts the participation of all elements of the community – seniors, children and their families, youth of all ages and young adults.

Our relationship with Jamii as a community partner is a long standing and productive one.

For more information about Jamii please see: [www.jamii.ca](http://www.jamii.ca)

### **SLNA Background**

The SLNA is an Association of residents in the St. Lawrence area of the City of Toronto, incorporated as a non-profit Corporation in 1983, which has served the St. Lawrence neighbourhood and its more than 35,000 residents for over 40 years. The SLNA's strength is its voice. An advocate for responsible development and preservation of heritage, SLNA promotes a sense of community, encourages participation in events and celebrations and champions the



neighbourhood's interests by building relationships with local businesses, institutions and with all levels of government.

Known as the place where our City began, The St. Lawrence neighbourhood encompasses the *original ten blocks* of the Town of York (dating from 1793) and today is a mixed-income, ethnically diverse residential and commercial community adjoining the Central Business District. It extends from Queen Street south to the rail corridor and from Yonge Street east to Parliament Street.

For more information about the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association please see:  
[www.slna.ca](http://www.slna.ca)

### **A Lasting Legacy for the St. Lawrence neighbourhood**

The SLNA is excited to be working with Jamii to produce this creative and lasting artistic legacy for our community. The SLNA Board of Directors is confident that this project will inspire all those that pass by, being visible to many thousands of residents and visitors each day. Its prominent location next to a local public school (Market Lane P.S.) and the St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre nestled within the internationally acclaimed community of homes and parks along The Esplanade demonstrates clearly the relevance and importance of this artistic endeavour between our two organizations.

The Board of Directors of the SLNA thanks you in advance for your support of this project.

Sincerely,

p.p.  
Board of Directors  
St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association

cc: City Councillor:  
Chris Moise

Councillor's Staff:  
Edward LaRusic

Jamii:  
Isorine Mark

SLNA Board of Directors:

Ms. N. Fung	Ms. V. Ilgacs	Mr. K. Jackson
Mr. S. Linton	Ms. S. McMillan	Ms. D. Patterson
Ms. T. Tenenbaum	Ms. R. Tilson	

SLNA:  
Suzanne Kavanagh