

City Clerk
The Corporation of the City of Richmond Hill
225 East Beaver Creek Road
Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4B 3P4

RE: City File ZBLA-22-0021

Dear City Clerk,

I am writing this letter in support of an application for an autism treatment centre in Richmond Hill. I am a parent of an exceptional child with autism and I know first-hand the importance of these treatment centres in our community. My son has been a client of Breakthrough Autism for over 8 years and has learned an abundance of essential life-skills that will help him live an independent life. My son is now 13 years old and is entering high school in September 2023. Centres like Breakthrough Autism have taught him skills such as reading, money-sense, personal hygiene, and classroom-ready skills and behaviours that will help him integrate into the community with more ease. These treatment centres are not only important to their clients and their families, but also to the community. They help children with autism reach their full potential to one day have a job and contribute to society; therefore, relying less on government assistance.

Moreover, Richmond Hill is a central part of the York Region area and can be easily accessed by the surrounding towns. An Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) centre located in your city will help families transport their children to a specialized skill-building therapeutic centre closer to home.

My son is a sweet, kind, and funny boy. He is a gift to this world and I want him, and all individuals with autism, to live a fulfilling life. Richmond Hill has an opportunity to give all these children a chance to build the essential skills they need to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nellie Simtikidis
31 Mary Elizabeth Cres
Markham, Ontario L3R 9L3