



Sent: June 26, 2020
Subject: Clarification re Student Graduates Initiative

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

Hello again Bedford Park Neighbours.

The Bedford Park Residents Organization (BPRO) wishes to apologize for our recent, poorly worded request soliciting graduate information. This was a very last minute idea.

Our intention is to publish a *Special Graduation Issue Newsletter* of all graduates living within Bedford Park by publishing the students' name, together with a photo of their lawn sign, or them standing beside their lawn sign. *Period.* So many students are missing out on the events of their graduating year that we thought honouring them in this way, and providing a little keepsake for them or their parents, would be a welcome way of building community.

What we didn't clarify in the haste of rushing to get the word out is that we asked for the parents' information (name, address, email) *only so that we were confident we had their permission, and so that we could be sure to deliver them a copy of our newsletter.* It was never our intention to disclose people's private information by publishing everything we requested, and we're very sorry that anyone would ever have thought that's something we would do. As an organization, we've worked very hard since inception to build the community's trust and respect with everything we do, whether through advocacy work or community building.

BPRO is a volunteer run organization and we are 100% dependent on neighbour support to exist. We assure everyone that we're very careful with people's private information, always asking volunteers, photographers or anyone else who contributes to our work for permission to acknowledge them. We encourage everyone to please check out the volume and integrity of our work at www.bprotoronto.ca to see for themselves.

We hope this note will quickly put our community-spirited, graduate project back on proper footing. **Knowing our full intention, anyone who would like to send us the name of their graduating student (or a neighbours), a photo of the student's lawn sign or a photo of the student standing with their lawn is most welcome to.** We would appreciate having the parent's name, address and email so that we know we have permission to publish, and so that we can be sure to deliver a copy of the newsletter. **We've asked for a response within a couple of days but our cut-off date remains July 2. Please send to info@bprotoronto.ca.**

We sincerely hope this dispels any concerns that people may have had. Please accept our apologies.

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