



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Results of Tenant Election to Toronto Community Housing Corporation Board of Directors

<b>Date:</b>	November 8, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Executive Committee
<b>From:</b>	City Manager
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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This report advises of the results of elections held on October 18, 2007 for tenant positions on the Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) board of directors and recommends that Council appoint the two tenants who received the highest number of votes to the TCHC board and designate the two tenants who received the next highest number of votes as alternates to be considered by Council if a tenant vacancy occurs during the term.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**The City Manager recommends that:**

1. City Council appoint Dan King and Catherine Wilkinson, the tenant representatives duly elected by the tenants, to serve at the pleasure of Council as members of the Board of Directors of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation effective January 1, 2008 for a two-year term ending December 31, 2009, with a renewal term of two years, or until their successor is appointed;
2. City Council designate Linda Coltman and Eva Tavares as alternates that will be considered by Council for appointment as tenant representatives to the TCHC board for the remainder of the term of the member they replace or until their successor is appointed, as long as they continue to be eligible when the vacancy occurs.

## **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications from adoption of the recommendations in this report.

## **Equity Statement**

Two tenants and two alternates were elected by tenants to serve on the Board of Directors of Toronto Community Housing Corporation through a process designed by TCHC tenants themselves. The election of tenants to the TCHC Board helps to build and support TCHC's diverse communities and ensure that the Board of TCHC is informed of tenant perspectives in formulating policy and making decisions.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

In March 2004 Council approved a process whereby tenant representatives on the TCHC Board of Directors are chosen by the tenants themselves through a process designed by the tenants.

Planning for the 2007 tenant board member nomination process began in December 2006 with the creation of a team of four tenants drawn from volunteers who responded to a request posted in the Fall 2006 Tenant Representative Bulletin and the TCHC web site.

Over 60 tenants completed applications and 45 of them met the eligibility criteria applicable under the *Business Corporations Act* and the City's Shareholder Direction to TCHC. On September 15, 34 Tenant Representatives selected by the Community Housing Unit (CHU) Councils attended a session to review applicant qualifications to identify a short list of eight tenants. Following an orientation, the Tenant Representatives were assigned to five facilitated panel groups. The five groups proceeded through a two-phase evaluation process to identify the eight candidates with the highest qualification scores. One of the eight candidates subsequently withdrew for personal reasons.

The campaign and voting process included four "meet the candidate" sessions facilitated by a professional moderator. Over 100 of the 383 Tenant Representatives of TCHC's 27 CHUs attended one of these sessions held across the City between October 1 and October 11. Candidate profiles were developed and distributed to Tenant Representatives in text and video and posted on the internet. The videos were also played during the registration period that preceded the moderated portion of the candidate sessions. Some of the candidates also attended scheduled CHU Council meetings. Advance polling was held from October 15 to 17 with elections held on October 18. Seventy-five percent (287) of the 383 Tenant Representatives cast ballots to elect directors.

## **COMMENTS**

The Chief Executive Officer of Toronto Community Housing Corporation advised the City Manager by letter dated October 26, 2007, appended as Attachment 1 to this report, of the process used to select tenant representatives to TCHC's Board of Directors and the outcome of that process.

The two tenants receiving the highest number of votes from TCHC Tenant Representatives at elections held on October 18, 2007, are Dan King and Catherine

Wilkinson, respectively. It is recommended that these two tenants be appointed to the TCHC Board of Directors for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2008 or until their successor is appointed.

The process for selecting tenant representatives to the TCHC Board also provides that the two tenants with the next highest number of votes be designated as alternates to be considered by Council in the event that either of the first two representatives is unable to complete their term. It is recommended that Linda Coltman and Eva Tavares, being the two tenant board candidates receiving the third and fourth highest number of votes, respectively, be designated by City Council as alternates.

The term for current citizen representatives on the TCHC Board of Directors ends December 31, 2007. The Corporations Nominating Panel is proceeding with the selection process to recommend the remaining seven citizen members for the TCHC Board of Directors. Staff will report on the outcome of that process in 2008.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Shirley Hoy,  
City Manager

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Letter dated October 26, 2007 from Derek Ballantyne, Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Community Housing Corporation