

June 16, 2014

Members of the Economic Development Committee,

Re: Small Business Roundtable Report and recommendations to support Toronto's small businesses.

Background:

Small businesses play a crucial role in the City of Toronto's economy and in its communities. Over 97 percent of the established businesses in Toronto are small businesses that have between 1-99 employees. Our small businesses are essential to the City of Toronto's economic vitality as they offer flexibility, ingenuity and serve alternative or niche markets.

The attached *Small Business Roundtable* report summarizes the April 11, 2014 Small Business Roundtable meeting that Councillor Thompson and I co-chaired . A diverse group of over forty participants provided valuable input on how the City can address some of the issues that affect Toronto's small businesses.

Recommendations:

We ask that you consider the input from the participants, which is outlined in the report. Furthermore, we ask that you endorse the recommendations contained within the report so we can enhance Toronto's business climate and ensure small businesses have the opportunity to succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Norm Kelly".

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Thompson".

Councillor Michael Thompson,
Chair, Economic Development &
Culture Committee