

EX7.16.1

Toronto Association of
Business Improvement Areas

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July 2, 2015

City of Toronto
Mayor Tory and Council
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

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RE: Supporting and Expanding Toronto's 81 Business Improvement Areas
(EX 7.16 Amendments to Business Improvement Area Capital Cost-Share Program Guidelines)

Mayor Tory and City Council,


We wish to extend our thanks to City Council for its consideration of expanded financing options for capital cost-share program in support of the efforts undertaken by the city's 81 Business Improvement Areas. In the past these programs have assisted in developing visionary streetscape improvements, neighbourhood festivals, public art and creative urban solutions across Toronto.

From the inception of the very first BIA in the world, Bloor West Village in 1970, Toronto's BIA's now represent more than 40,000 Toronto businesses and properties assessed at more than \$45 billion. Continuing to expand and improve the way we see and promote our neighbourhoods is an international legacy both started here in Toronto and continually developed by our innovative business communities.

We endorse EX 7.16 and encourage all City Councillors to support it. Further we look forward to working with the City of Toronto to highlight its BIA success stories and continue to expand its capital cost-share program to ensure that our business community continues to thrive.

Sincerely,

John Kiru
Executive Director, TABIA

CC:  City Council
Mike Williams
Mike Major