

From: [Geoff MacBride - TPA](#)
To: [Licensing and Standards Committee](#); [Councillor DeBaeremaeker](#); [Gwen Mackay](#); [Councillor Di Giorgio](#); [Nicola \(Ward 12\) Faieta](#); [Councillor Karygiannis](#); [Kathryn Gooch](#); [Councillor Mammoliti](#); [Laura Morreale](#); [Councillor Matlow](#); [Liz McFarland](#); [Anthony Ferrari](#); [Councillor Palacio](#); [Cesar Palacio](#)
Subject: LS11.3 MRAB Audit and Enforcement Program - 2015 Annual Report
Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:48:57 AM
Attachments: [Toronto stairwell letter - TPA \(2\).doc](#)

Dear Clerk and Members of the Licensing and Standards Committee,

It has come to the Toronto Paramedic Association's attention that there has been a shortcoming in regards to the enforcement of safety standards in apartment stairwells. Please find attached the TPA's formal submission for agenda item LS11.3.

As professionals who see the effects that these dangers can have on one's health, both for Toronto residents and our membership of paramedics, we appreciate the Committee's attention and consideration of this important matter.

We would be happy to speak to you in further detail, should you have any questions.

Warm regards,

Geoff

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Knowledge Skill Compassion

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To Members of the Licensing and Standards committee:

The Toronto Paramedic Association is the professional body that advances the profession of Paramedicine, advocates on behalf of practitioners and patients and serves our members in the City of Toronto. Public safety and patient advocacy are one of our key goals. We are not a labour union.

We understand that there has been a shortcoming in regards to the enforcement of city bylaws as they relate to apartment building standards. Namely the safety of apartment stairwell railings, handrails and guardrails under Toronto Municipal code 629.

Paramedics and other emergency workers regularly use building stairwells in the course of their duties. The safe upkeep of these areas is imperative to ensure the safety of both emergency workers and residents. As well, maintenance of these standards serves to prevent illness and injury. The City of Toronto has a duty to ensure compliance with these standards therefore providing both a safe living and working environment for all.

We encourage the city to work closely with stakeholders to ensure the safety of tenants and paramedics by resuming the issuance of work orders for non-compliant guardrails and handrails.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Geoff MacBride
President
Toronto Paramedic Association