

**From:** [Radio Good Cheer](#)  
**To:** [councilmeeting](#)  
**Cc:** [Mayor Tory](#)  
**Subject:** letter  
**Date:** November 5, 2021 11:37:10 AM

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# RUSSIAN LANGUAGE RADIO PROGRAM

“Good  
Cheer”

“Good

corporation #1016527

non-profit

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Friday, November 5, 2021

Toronto City Council  
12th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Attn: Marilyn Toft, Council Secretariat**

**Delivered by email to: [councilmeeting@toronto.ca](mailto:councilmeeting@toronto.ca)**

**Re: PH27.2 – Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas – Phase 1 Final Report and Phase 2 Update**

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council,

On behalf of **Russian Language Radio Program Good Cheer**, I wish to express our concern and alarm with respect to the report on Zoning By-Law conformity for employment zones in the Official Plan, specifically the proposed removal of permissions for bingo halls and related uses in the Former City of Etobicoke Zoning By-law (Attachment 9 to the Final Report).

Our charity is one of 66 local charities that rely on Delta Bingo and Gaming St. Clair, to support our organization in the Toronto community. Without that support we will simply not be able to function.

Radio program "GOOD CHEER" was founded in 1992 by a group of immigrants from the former USSR who wished to help newcomers integrate into Canadian society. Our members are working voluntarily, donating our time.

Russian Language Radio Program "Good Cheer" inform Russian-speaking immigrants about Canadian law, especially immigration and civil law in general. We also set up interviews on the air with different specialists, such as, social workers, psychologists, police representatives, etc. Our organization serves more than 100000 listeners in Toronto.

In order for a radio program to go on the air, you need to buy time on a Main Stream radio station. Our program has been broadcast on CIRV 88.9 FM for over 27 years. Air time is quite expensive and our nonprofit corporation's participation in Bingo sessions at **Delta Bingo St. Clair** provides vital assistance in paying for it.

The last 18 months have been very challenging for everyone, and our organization is no exception. We have struggled to survive with very little funding as Delta St. Clair was closed for 420 days over the course of the pandemic. Now, due to a proposed expropriation from the City of Toronto and Metrolinx, the Delta St. Clair location will have to move to another site. The new site (at 360 Evans Ave.) is currently zoned to allow for a Bingo Hall. Under the proposed By-law amendment that permission would be revoked.

As you can appreciate, finding an appropriate venue at a reasonable price in the current real estate environment is a real challenge. We are looking forward to the move to 360 Evans Ave. and urge you not to remove this permission and allow us to re-locate as planned with the current permissions.

Based on the concerns identified above, we respectfully request that the Draft By-laws and report, specifically as it applies to the use of employment lands for bingo halls, is removed entirely or in the very least referred back to City Planning staff for dedicated public consultation and review. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and we look forward to further discussions on this matter.

Sincerely,

**Igor Toutchinski**

**President**

**Russian Language Radio Program Good Cheer**

**[mixtv@mixtv.ca](mailto:mixtv@mixtv.ca)**

**855 Alness St. Unit 7 Toronto, Ontario M3J 2X3 ●  
(416) 823-9196**

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