



October 26, 2021

Executive Committee  
12th Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**RE: EX27.13 Award of Negotiated Request for Proposal Ariba Document Number 2604476104 to Election Systems and Software Canada ULC for the Provision of Vote Counting Equipment for the City Clerk's Office**

Mayor Tory and members of the Executive Committee,

The Ranked Ballot Initiative of Toronto (RaBIT), a grassroots, non-profit organization advocating for more fair, diverse, inclusive and friendly elections in Toronto, is pleased to support the Executive Committee's adoption of staff recommendations outlined in EX27.13.

RaBIT's perspective on this matter is that Council should make a decision which best maintains the City's ability to control how its elections are conducted so that it can ensure a level of integrity and alignment with the wishes of voters that Torontonians expect and deserve. This is especially important given the recent ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada which found that, at law, Torontonians are not even necessarily guaranteed free and fair elections for Mayor or City Council under the Canadian Constitution. This ruling clearly highlights that Torontonians can only depend on themselves to guarantee that their elections run the way that they want them to.

RaBIT has no specific prior preference insofar as the procurement methods that the City uses to acquire its voting technology. Unsurprisingly, our view is that whichever option is most likely to maintain the integrity of the election while also enabling the city to enact Torontonians' clear desire to move to a ranked ballot voting system is the option that ought to be pursued. In this case, we find the reasoning provided by the report compelling and urge Council to adopt the recommendation outlined in the report.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Michael Urban  
Co-chairperson  
Ranked Ballot Initiative of Toronto (RaBIT)