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Chair Thompson and Members of the Economic and Community Development Committee  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West,  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N1

June 23, 2022

Dear Chair Thompson and Members of the Committee,

The [Fatal Light Awareness Program \(FLAP\) Canada](#) is a registered Canadian charity widely recognized as the pre-eminent authority on bird-window collisions. We are writing regarding a serious concern about the recommendations contained within staff report #EC30.5 (Updates to Chapter 349, Animals), namely the allowance for cats to roam outdoors.

The City of Toronto is recognized for being a world leader in bird protection, being the first city to publish and adopt Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines and recently being recognized by Nature Canada as a 'Bird-Friendly City'. However, outdoor cats are a major threat to wildlife. In fact, domestic and feral cats take first place as the most significant, human-caused threat to birds (even surpassing collisions with buildings), killing between [100 and 350 million birds](#) in Canada every year. The issue of window collisions and free-roaming cats also intersect to create even greater challenges for birds. For example, victims of window collisions which manage to survive the impact often become easy prey for free-roaming cats.

**To maintain its reputation as a leader in bird conservation, while retaining its Bird-Friendly City certification, it is imperative that the City of Toronto strengthen its wildlife protection bylaws, not weaken them. We therefore urge the City to adopt an anti-roaming bylaw for cats.**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Measure'.

Michael Measure | FLAP Canada Executive Director