



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Results of Tenant Election to Toronto Community Housing Corporation Board of Directors

Date:	May 31, 2011
To:	City Council
From:	City Manager
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report advises of the results of elections held for tenant positions on the Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) board of directors and recommends that Council appoint the two tenants who received the highest number of votes to the TCHC board and designate the two tenants who received the next highest number of votes as alternate board members to be considered by Council in the event that a tenant vacancy on the board occurs during the term.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Manager recommends that:

1. City Council appoint Munira Abukar and Catherine Wilkinson, the tenant representatives elected by tenants, to serve at the pleasure of Council as members of the Board of Directors of Toronto Community Housing Corporation effective June 15, 2011 for a two-year term ending June 14, 2013, with a renewal term of two years, or until their successor is appointed;
2. City Council designate Tarak Ahmed and Simone Samuel as first and second alternate board members to be considered by Council for appointment as tenant representatives to the TCHC board for the remainder of the term of the member they replace, or until their successor is appointed, as long as they are eligible when such vacancy occurs.

Financial Impact

There is no direct financial impact on the City from adoption of the recommendations in this report.

Equity Impact Statement

Two tenants and two alternate board members were elected by tenants to serve on the TCHC Board of Directors through a process designed by tenants and approved by City Council. The election of tenants to the TCHC Board helps to build and support TCHC's diverse communities and ensure that the TCHC Board is informed of tenant perspectives and experiences in formulating policy and making business decisions.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The City's Shareholder Direction to TCHC provides that the TCHC Board is comprised of 13 Directors, being 9 citizens, 2 of whom are tenants and 4 members of Council, one of whom shall be the Mayor, or the Mayor's designate. The Public Appointments Policy, as amended on March 9, 2011 (Item EX4.7) provides that the TCHC Board of Directors includes two tenants to be elected by tenants. City Council approved Clause 23, Policy and Finance Committee Report No. 2, which set out a process designed by TCHC tenants for tenants to elect tenant representatives on the TCHC Board at its meeting held on March 1, 2 and 3, 2004.

COMMENTS

The Chief Executive Officer (Interim) of TCHC has written to the City Manager indicating the outcome of the election process for the two tenant representatives on the TCHC Board and providing details of that process.

The tenant election process began on April 1 with notices mailed to each of their 58,500 tenant households and with posters in their buildings. Four information sessions for prospective applicants were held in north Etobicoke, north Scarborough and at TCHC's head office on April 12, 13 and 14. The application period closed on April 29.

TCHC received a total of 96 tenant applications that met eligibility criteria. The applications were screened by 36 tenant representatives to form an 8 person short list to be placed on the election ballot. Only TCHC tenant representatives, youth representatives and Tenant Engagement Reference Committee members were eligible to vote. Voting was held at TCHC locations across the City from May 24 to 27.

The two tenants receiving the highest number of votes cast are Munira Abukar and Catherine Wilkinson. It is recommended that these two tenants be appointed to the TCHC Board of Directors effective June 15, 2011. It is also recommended that the two tenants with the third and fourth highest number of votes, being Tarak Ahmed and Simone Samuel, be designated as alternate board members to be considered by Council in the event that either of the first two representatives is unable to complete their term.

CONTACT

Joe Borowiec, Corporate Management and Policy Consultant,
Strategic and Corporate Policy Division, City Manager's Office
Tel: 416-397-9110; Fax: 416-696-3645; Email: jborowie@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Joseph P. Pennachetti,
City Manager

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Letter dated May 30, 2011 from Len Koroneos, Chief Executive Officer
(Interim), Toronto Community Housing Corporation