

Ward 15, Eglinton-Lawrence

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June 2, 2011

Councillor Michael Thompson
Chair, Economic Development Committee
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Thompson,

I am writing to urge you and my fellow councillors on the Economic Development Committee to support my motion to officially write the National Hockey League (NHL) to express **the City of Toronto's interest in becoming the host City for an additional NHL team should the opportunity arise.**

It is incumbent on the Economic Development Committee and City Council to support and aggressively pursue any opportunity that would bring significant increases in economic activity, tourism, jobs, and tax revenues to the City of Toronto. While any team would be located within Toronto's boundaries, it will be a regional draw that will entertain fans across southern Ontario and benefit from the largest hockey market in the world.

While there is no doubt that this region could support a second NHL team, we must ensure that Toronto does not miss out on a potential opportunity to one of our neighbouring jurisdictions in the GTA and forgo the associated benefits that a NHL team would bring to our City. **The City of Toronto must convey a loud and clear message to the NHL that we are willing partners and would make the best host city for any new or relocating NHL franchise.** I would also ask for support and communicate our intent to our partners at Tourism Toronto and Invest Toronto who would greatly benefit from the economic activity and tourism that a team would bring to the City.

It should also be noted that the addition of a second team in the Southern Ontario market could be a benefit to the Toronto Maple Leafs and Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment (MLSE). The addition of two teams to the New York market has yielded eight Stanley Cup Championships for their three local franchises and helped to grow the sport exponentially. In addition, MLSE has set an outstanding standard for community involvement and support that a new franchise would no doubt have to match.

Let's work together to serve the hockey loving residents of this City and give a huge economic boost to Toronto.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Josh Colle
Ward 15 – Eglinton – Lawrence
City of Toronto

- c. Mayor Rob Ford, Mayor, City of Toronto
- c. Mr. Gary Bettman, Commissioner, National Hockey League
- c. Mr. David Whitaker, President, Tourism Toronto
- c. Mr. Renato Discenza, Invest Toronto