



July 21, 2011

**Re: City of Toronto Core Service Review and the Toronto Atmospheric Fund**

To the Executive Committee:

To me, TAF embodies the spirit of innovation that the City should embrace, not cut. It is this type of innovation which has gained Toronto recognition for climate leadership on a global stage, and has improved the quality of life for a large number of Torontonians.

Since the inception of the Sustainability Office at the University of Toronto in Fall 2004, the Toronto Atmospheric Fund (TAF) has been an exceptionally valuable partner. On June 28, 2004 the Board of Directors of TAF approved a grant to the University of Toronto in the amount of \$225,000 over three years, which resulted in the establishment of the Sustainability Office. Other outcomes (see [www.sustainability.utoronto.ca](http://www.sustainability.utoronto.ca) for more details) include:

- Completion of a major lighting and chiller retrofit on the U of T's St. George campus, resulting in annual savings of approximately \$1.2M and 12 GWh;
- Evaluation of the carbon footprint of the St. George campus;
- Delivery of the award-winning "Rewire" energy-conservation program to over 10,000 students in residences;
- Founding of Bikechain, U of T's free bike repair, rental and education facility;
- Student engagement and learning opportunities through U of T involvement in the PHEV and LightSavers programs.

The Sustainability Office and the U of T community as a whole has also benefitted greatly from the guidance and expertise of TAF staff and their extensive network. Furthermore, TAF's funding allowed us to build the in-house resources necessary to secure an annual base budget from U of T of \$270,000 – which supports 4 full-time staff – and well over \$500,000 in external grants.

I sincerely hope that you take this letter into consideration during the Executive Committee meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

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