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**Ex 23.15.10**

October 24, 2012

Members of City Council  
City of Toronto

Councillors:

We are writing on behalf of the Metro Chapter of Canadian Pensioners Concerned, Inc., Ontario Division (CPC) an organization that has been in existence for 40 years in the City of Toronto. Our concerns are not only for seniors but for all generations. Quality of life for people of all ages is our overriding concern.

Metro chapter is concerned that removal of the Hardship Fund is included in a report coming to City Council on October 30/31, 2012.

Services for vulnerable seniors will be removed by the elimination of the Hardship Fund which provides financial assistance to cover short term expenses such as prescription drugs, eyeglasses, and funerals. 1,500 people receive assistance from the Hardship Fund annually; these are people who don't have access to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program; 93% are seniors 61 years of age and older, living in poverty and on fixed incomes.

We request that the Council amends recommendation EX23.15 and directs the City Manager to ensure that the Hardship Fund is fully funded in the 2013 City budget and that it continues to operate consistent with current City guidelines.

Yours truly,

Sylvia Hall and Margaret Watson  
Co-Chairs  
Metro Chapter  
Canadian Pensioners Concerned

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SECRETARIAT SECTION