

May 10, 2012

Office of the Mayor Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St. West, 2nd Floor Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Electronic delivery: mayor\_ford@toronto.ca

Dear Mayor Ford:

## **RE: Support for Woodbine Entertainment Group**

As a long-time resident, champion and political leader for Etobicoke, you understand the importance of the Etobicoke General Hospital in meeting the health care needs of our growing and diverse community.

To help continue to meet the growing demand for services and help our community stay healthy, we are undertaking a full-scale redevelopment of the Etobicoke General site. The multi-million dollar, multi-year expansion and redevelopment of the current hospital site, along with the development of a community health care hub with other health care and retail opportunities is an ambitious undertaking that will require ongoing community support and financial commitment.

Woodbine Entertainment Group has been a long-time advocate and financial supporter of Etobicoke General. Woodbine Entertainment Group is not only a strong community partner, but a valued employer and staunch supporter of the Rexdale and Etobicoke communities.

In today's current economic climate, we need to support our local businesses, especially those who give back to their communities, and ensure that they continue to thrive. More importantly, we need to ensure that they remain active and involved members of our larger communities.

With the important role Woodbine Entertainment Group holds in our community, I want to express my personal and strong support to the Executive Council for Woodbine Racetrack as the location of choice for a full-scale casino in the City of Toronto. As the Executive Committee considers the addition of a full casino, it appears Woodbine Racetrack would be an optimum choice based on its existing business streams, impact on the local Etobicoke economy through direct employment and spin-off job creation, and its corporate social responsibility philosophy. With your strong ties to the Etobicoke community, I am sure you can appreciate the value of our partnership with Woodbine Entertainment Group, and our recognition of their activities. We hope that you will consider our note of support for Woodbine Entertainment Group, and their continued role as Etobicoke General Hospital champion in our community.

Sincerely,

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Ken Mayhew President and CEO

cc. Executive Committee, Council, City of Toronto Jane Holmes, Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Woodbine Entertainment Group