June 12, 2012

Mayor Rob Ford
Chair, Executive Committee
100 Queen St. W
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Chair and Members,

RE: EX. 21.33 Gone Fishin'

Shoreline fishing is a longstanding tradition and recreational hobby enjoyed by 1000's of Torontonians of all stripes. Through conservation efforts, the population of fresh water fish in Lake Ontario has grown from five species to seventeen. Protecting access to the central waterfront for fishing and other leisure activities is an important part of establishing Toronto's waterfront as an Urban Cottage. Unfortunately last Friday 20 signs were erected on the Central Waterfront including in areas where citizens have fished for decades.

Therefore I would ask the Committee to adopt the following:

1) The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation with assistance from the Waterfront Secretariat and WaterfrontToronto arrange a "Fishing Summit" on shoreline fishing within the central waterfront, with representation from local anglers, the TRCA, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Harbourfront Centre, Ontario Place, the Toronto Port Authority, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, and other relevant stakeholders, to
   a. Celebrate and encourage shoreline fishing on the central waterfront, and:
   b. Determine if there are any locations which are not suitable for shoreline fishing and take appropriate action
   c. Report these results to the appropriate Committee

2) Request the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation remove the no-fishing signs recently installed along the Toronto's Waterfront

Sincerely,

Councillor Paula Fletcher
Ward 30, Toronto-Danforth

cc  John Livey, Deputy City Manager
    John Campbell, President WaterfrontToronto
    Angus Armstrong, Harbour Master Toronto Port Authority
    William J.S. Boyle, CEO Harbourfront Centre
    David Chong, Angler
    Greg Farrant, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
    Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Chair Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
    Wil Wegman, Ministry of Natural Resources
    Ontario Place