

## Gloria Lindsay Luby

City of Toronto Councillor  
Etobicoke Centre, Ward 4

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West, Suite B38  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2  
Tel: 416-392-1369  
Fax: 416-696-4138  
Email: councillor\_lindsay\_luby@toronto.ca



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### **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Chair and Members of the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo and

**Re:** The Future of Toronto Zoo Governance

I am at the FCM meeting and unable to attend, however, I have had an opportunity to review the document on the future of the Toronto Zoo governance. In my opinion it is a well researched and thoughtful strategy. My specific comments are as follows:

1. It is clear that the vision for governance involves leaders and key stakeholders of the Greater Toronto Area. This implies that the new "Zoological Society" Board will be regional in nature. If such is the case, then I suggest that a more fitting name for the Zoo be created as well as an updated logo. For example, we may wish to call it the "Greater Toronto Zoological Society". This would dovetail with the "National Rouge Park" which is being created.
2. In describing the organizational structure for the Toronto Zoo, as cited on Page 26, a partnership agreement between the City and Society is proposed. I suggest that we clearly differentiate between the "hard" assets, such as land and facilities, from the "soft" assets which are the animals and should be under the Society's domain. This issue is alluded to on Page 35 of the report.
3. The transition to a new Board of Directors is identified on Page 40 as being in place no later than December 15, 2012 and on Page 41, it is suggested that a detailed timeline to ensure the transition would be earmarked to January, 2013. I totally concur with this advice and recommend that we move swiftly to identify those who wish to be on the new Board.
4. In dealing with the transition dates, Council must defer new appointments to the Zoo Board which would normally occur in October so that the orderly transition to the new Board can take place two months later.

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Since I am unable to make the Board meeting, I would like to suggest the following motions be passed:

1. THAT the Governance Task Force support the recommendations made in this report; and
2. THAT Council defer changes to the present composition of the Zoo Board of Management appointments pending transition to the new Board in December, 2012.

Finally, I would urge all members on the need to sell this document to senior staff and City Councillors so that there is full understanding and agreement with the new direction that the Zoo should be taking.

Gloria Lindsay Luby,  
Toronto City Councillor,  
Etobicoke Centre - Ward 4.

GLL/pp