

CC37.2.1

**From:** <info@corktown.ca>  
**To:** <mayor\_ford@toronto.ca>, <councillor\_mcconnell@toronto.ca>, <clerk@toron...>  
**CC:** <gmurray.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org>, <bob.rae.c1@parl.gc.ca>, <board@corkto...>  
**Date:** 8:50 am 7/15/2013  
**Subject:** Item CC37.2 - Council meeting - Petition Request for Ward Boundary Changes - July 16, 2013

Dear Mayor Ford, Councillor McConnell, and Council,

I write on behalf of the Corktown Residents & Business Association (CRBA) which has already written previously in objection to the realignment of the Federal election boundaries affecting Toronto Centre. The basis of our objection was that it splits a number of cohesive established communities and joins the severed parts with communities on the other side of Yonge Street with which they have little in common and where entirely different sets of community conditions exist.

Now, Council is faced with a petition from the Toronto Taxpayers' Coalition which uses a provision in existing by-laws which forces Council to consider and decide on the matter of Ward boundaries triggered by a petition of only 510 people. The Coalition's petition calls for the realignment of Ward boundaries "based on" the ultimate Federal realignment.

Since the Coalition has a clearly stated objective to halve the size of Council, and thereby reduce the responsiveness of its members to local citizen and business concerns, this petition is simply the "thin end of the wedge". This is the wrong way to go about cost reduction in the City and will hurt the City far more than it could possibly help. The boundaries issue itself does not have any apparent impact on the Coalition's objectives but the size of Council does.

We ask you to consider the real strategy behind the petition and separate the two issues. The petition should not divert Council away from the position it has already taken on the Ward and Federal boundaries.

We would be happy to consult with you further on this important matter for the south-east downtown area of Toronto.

Respectfully,

Kara Isert  
 President  
 Corktown Residents & Business Association

CC:  
 Councillor Pam McConnell  
 City Clerk's Office  
 The Honourable Glen Murray, MPP  
 The Honourable Bob Rae, MP  
 Corktown Residents & Business Association Board  
 Steve Lowden, President, St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association  
 Phylis Coles, President, Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association

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 SECRETARIAT SECTION