December 15, 2013

Mayor Rob Ford
Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly and Members of Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 2N2

Attention: Ms. Marilyn Toft, Council Secretary
Email: clerk@toronto.ca

Dear Mayor Rob Ford, Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly & Members of Council

EX36.3: City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy and Bill 1754

CORRA, the Confederation of Resident and Ratepayer Associations in Toronto, received communication from member associations concerned with the Honourific and Street Naming Policy amendments to Chapter 27 of the City’s Municipal Code and the related changes to Council Procedures. Along with the amendments is Bill 1754 that will effect the proposed changes to the Municipal Code.

CORRA is writing to respectfully ask the amendments to the Honourific and Street Naming Policy and the introduction of Bill 1754 be deferred because:

1. Notice was signed by the City Clerk dated November 28, 2013 (Thursday) for consideration of amendments at Executive Committee on Thursday December 5, 2013, approx. 5 days notice, for changes that affect all wards in the City.

2. The amendments include changes to the City’s municipal code and amendments to Council procedures, including delegation of responsibility from Council to staff. The procedure involving residents, community council and council is being altered and insufficient time is being provided to review the proposed changes.

3. Residents and ratepayers and their associations understand the problems associated with the naming of streets that may be duplicates and similar sounding to existing street names but equally important to achieving operational efficiencies is allowing for reasonable due process at the local community level to consider the changes.

4. The selection of a street name or honouring worthy individuals by naming streets after them is a place making activity at its local best—it brings together people, it draws on local stories and captures the imagination of the community.
A deferral with notice to the local community councils will allow residents, ratepayers and their associations a reasonable opportunity to consider and comment on the proposed changes to the Honourific and Street Naming Policy. Also a listing of street names currently presenting a problem with emergency, fire or police services should be expedited and earmarked for street name changes.

Thank you for considering CORRA's request on behalf of residents, ratepayers and their associations. Please keep CORRA informed of Council's decision and any subsequent decisions on this matter.

Thank you,

Eileen Denny
Vice Chair, CORRA
Confederation of Resident and Ratepayer Associations in Toronto
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