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
Email: clerk@toronto.ca

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

PG29.8: City’s Protocol for Telecommunication Towers and Antennas
PW27.10: Telecommunications – Authority to Install Stand-Alone Antenna Poles
GM26.8: Telecommunication Towers and Antennae Agreements between Rogers Communication Inc. and the City of Toronto

CITY COUNCIL MEETING No. 45, DECEMBER 16, 17, 2013

CORRA, the Confederation of Resident and Ratepayer Associations in Toronto, is writing in response to issues recently brought to our attention concerning telecommunication towers and antennas. In reviewing the issues CORRA would like to draw Council’s attention to the related telecommunication items on the agenda – PG29.8, PW27.10 and GM26.8 as noted above that should be considered concurrently.

CORRA recognizes the recommendations in PG29.8 strengthens the protocol used to evaluate the location and consultation process as it relates to telecommunication tower and telecommunication antenna proposals within the City. And the amendments will regulate telecommunication proposals of 15M and less that were previously excluded.

Should Council consider the amended protocol as proposed in PG29.8 to be adequate, CORRA is asking:

1. To ensure the amended proposed protocol applies to the City’s local boards or agencies including Toronto Hydro that may have the authority or permission to install telecommunication tower and telecommunication antenna proposals within the City;

2. To ensure that any private agreements the City may contract to permit the installation of telecommunication tower and telecommunication antenna proposals incorporate the amended proposed protocol requirements in the negotiated contracts; and
3. To refuse the permission to install telecommunication tower and telecommunication antenna proposals of 15M or less on the City’s public right-of-way, a use that is currently not permitted.

CORRA’s request will provide some level of predictability for concerned residents in evaluating the location of telecommunication tower and antenna proposals where the City has some measure of control. Council adopting such measures will demonstrate to other operators wishing to install such equipment to respect the City’s protocol.

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
On behalf of the CORRA Executive Team
corratoronto@gmail.com