

PW27.10.121

City of Toronto Councillors
c/o Marilyn Toft
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Re City of Toronto Council meeting agenda items:

GM26.8 Telecommunication Towers and Antennae Agreements between Rogers Communication Inc. and the City of Toronto;

PG29.8 Review of City Protocol for Telecommunications Towers Under 15 Metres in Height - Supplementary Report;

PW27.10 Telecommunications - Authority to Permit the Installation of Stand-Alone Antenna Poles

Dear City Councillors:

C4ST, Canadians for Safe Technology C4ST, is a not-for-profit, volunteer-based coalition of parents, citizens and experts whose mission is to educate and inform Canadians and their policy makers about the dangers of the exposures to unsafe levels of radiation from technology and to work with all levels of government to create healthier communities for children and families from coast to coast.

We would like to express our requests that council vote for item GM26.8, vote for PG29.8 with modifications and vote against item PW27.10.

Regarding item GM26.8, we support the Terms and Conditions that we understand City staff has included in the Rogers agreement, especially:

1. Agreement to meet the City of Toronto's Prudent Avoidance Policy for radiation emissions in which Toronto leads North America;
2. Indemnity: "Licensee to release and indemnify the City from claims arising from the license" which include health effects
3. The antenna will be tested annually to ensure they meet Toronto's Prudent Avoidance Policy
4. Councillors will be notified of new tower requests and the new towers will adhere to PG29.8 Antenna Siting Protocol

Regarding item PG29.8, we would recommend the following improvements be added:

1. City of Toronto/Toronto Hydro to Appeal OEB decision to allow antenna on Hydro Poles.
2. City of Toronto/Toronto Hydro to Appeal pricing of \$22.35 per antenna per year as it unfairly incents telecom companies to install antenna on hydro poles.
3. Council to ask Toronto Hydro to follow City "best practices" for antenna on hydro poles (see above in item GM26.8)

4. Request that Council urgently encourage Health Canada to adopt international best practice standards and process for its update of Federal Safety Code 6.
5. Support Councillor Vaughan's motion for signage on all under 15m towers and antenna.

Regarding item PW27.10 we do not support tower sites on City of Toronto rights of way. This would be a new area of cell tower and antennae intrusion. In addition to the eye sore and inconvenience, C4ST has grave concerns over the harmful effects of wireless radiation especially to children, the infirmed and the electrosensitive. The World Health Organization has classified wireless radiation as a Class 2B, possible carcinogen. Lead and DDT are in the same category. High quality, peer reviewed, scientific studies show a relationship between wireless radiation and cancer, male infertility, behavioural problems in children, cardiac symptoms and ADD/ADHD/autism in pre-natal exposed children – among many other important health issues.

We encourage Council to build on its North American leading efforts of protecting Torontonians from the harm from wireless radiation.

Sincerely,



Frank Clegg
CEO,
Canadians for Safe Technology (C4ST)

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