



July 2, 2013

Executive Committee
City of Toronto
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

RE: Executive Committee Agenda Item EX33.22, July 3, 2013

Dear Executive Committee Members,

BPI Canada supports the proposed Residential Energy Retrofit Pilot Program, which will encourage homeowners to undertake comprehensive energy retrofits with a focus on whole home performance through the requirement to have a pre and post energy audit. As a pilot, this program has the potential to influence other municipalities to adopt a Local Improvement Charge as a financial tool. Retrofitting our existing housing stock presents the largest opportunity to reduce energy consumption.

Beyond possible financial barriers, homeowners may also be unaware of the opportunities to reduce energy consumption and how to find a qualified renovator. To ensure maximum energy savings, contractors need to understand and apply building science principles and the “house as a system” concept. Unfortunately, there are no industry or government requirements for contractors to undertake training or certification. BPI Canada, is setting performance metrics for contractors and their work and teaches the value of a “whole house approach”.

Through contractor accreditation and trades certification BPI Canada’s goal is to gain the confidence of the consumers and encourage the renovation industry to become professional. A key component of the program is to assist in resolving conflicts between the contractor and the homeowner. Further details are found in the attached file.

City staff has been made aware of the BPI Canada program potential to the success of this pilot and they are supportive. Details of how the pilot promotes the use of qualified contractors still need to be confirmed with staff.

BPI Canada is a not for profit industry organization that is the first of its kind in Canada to link the manufacturers, contractors and the installers together to provide homeowners with the assurance that installed renovation materials and products will produce desired energy reduction results.

We look forward to working with the City in the implementation of this pilot.

Regards,

Gail Lawlor
BPI Canada Steering Committee Member

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