



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Results of Tenant Election to Toronto Community
Housing Corporation Board of Directors**

Date:	June 1, 2015
To:	City Council
From:	Acting City Manager
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report advises City Council of the results of elections held for tenant positions on the Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) Board of Directors. The report recommends that Council appoint the two tenants who received the highest number of votes to the TCHC board and designate the two tenants who received the next highest number of votes as alternate board members to be considered by Council in the event that a tenant vacancy on the board occurs during the term. The term of the current tenant representatives ends on June 14, 2015 or until their successors are appointed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting City Manager recommends that:

1. City Council appoint Robert Carlo and Catherine Wilkinson, the tenant representatives elected by tenants, to serve at the pleasure of Council as members of the Board of Directors of Toronto Community Housing Corporation effective June 15, 2015 for a two-year term ending June 14, 2017 or until their successors are appointed.
2. City Council designate Conrad Hall and Anita Dressler as first and second alternate board members to be considered by Council for appointment as tenant representatives to the TCHC board for the remainder of the term of the member

they replace, or until their successor is appointed, as long as they are eligible when such vacancy occurs.

3. City Council request the Board of Directors of TCHC to complete its review of the current tenant election process and report to the City, as the Shareholder, on any changes required prior to the next tenant election in order for changes to take effect for the 2017 tenant election process.

Financial Impact

There is no direct financial impact on the City from adoption of the recommendations in this report.

Equity Impact Statement

Two tenants and two alternate representatives were elected by tenants to serve on the TCHC Board of Directors through a process designed by tenants and approved by City Council. The election of tenants to the TCHC Board helps to build and support TCHC's diverse communities and ensures that the TCHC Board is informed of tenant perspectives and experiences in formulating policy and making business decisions.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The City's Shareholder Direction to TCHC provides that the TCHC Board is comprised of 13 Directors, including 9 citizens, 2 of whom are tenants, and 4 members of Council, one of whom shall be the Mayor, or the Mayor's designate.

The Public Appointments Policy provides that the TCHC Board of Directors includes two tenants to be elected by tenants. The Policy was amended as adopted by City Council on May 5, 2015 to require that a full recruitment process for public members on boards of City Corporations, including tenants, be conducted every two year.

City Council approved Clause 23, Policy and Finance Committee Report No. 2, which set out a process designed by TCHC tenants for tenants to elect tenant representatives on the TCHC Board at its meeting held on March 1, 2 and 3, 2004.

COMMENTS

Tenant Election Process 2015

The Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of TCHC has written to the City Manager indicating the outcome of the election process for the two tenant representatives on the TCHC Board and providing details of that process.

The tenant election process began on March 20, 2015 with notices in the form of post cards mailed to all TCHC households and posters displayed in TCHC buildings. Application packages were made available on TCHC's website, and hard copies were available in the offices of each TCHC Operating Unit and building superintendents.

Five information sessions were held at TCHC locations across the City of Toronto for prospective applicants between April 7 and 20, 2015, including North York, Scarborough and downtown Toronto. A total of 149 attendees attended the information sessions. The application period closed on April 22, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

TCHC received a total of 85 tenant applications, 53 of which met the eligibility criteria. The applications were screened by 23 tenant representatives to form an 8 person short list to be placed on the election ballot.

The selection process included one all-candidates session held on May 4, 2012 at the North York Civic Centre. The meeting was videotaped and posted on the TCHC's website. As per TCHC's tenant-developed nomination process, only TCHC tenant representatives were eligible to vote. Voting was held at TCHC locations across the City from May 12 to 15, using ballots produced by the City of Toronto Election Services. Votes were counted on May 15, 2015 by City of Toronto Election Services' staff and 3 TCHC tenant scrutineers using a City Vote Tabulator in the presence of candidates, tenants and TCHC staff.

The two tenants receiving the highest number of votes cast are Catherine Wilkinson and Robert Carlo. It is recommended that these two tenants be appointed to the TCHC Board of Directors effective June 15, 2015. It is also recommended that the two tenants with the third and fourth highest number of votes, being Conrad Hall and Anita Dressler, be designated as alternate board members to be considered by Council in the event that either of the first two representatives is unable to complete their term, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements, including that they are tenants of TCHC.

Review of the Tenant Election Process

The current tenant election process has not undergone a full review since it was adopted by Toronto City Council in March 2004. The letter from the TCHC's Interim President and Chief Executive Officer notes that it will work with residents to review the existing tenant board members nomination process, which may result in recommendations to the City, as the Shareholder, on changes to the nomination process. The review process will

include a process to receive feedback from TCHC Tenants on the current tenant-developed nomination process and the results will be provided to the City as the Shareholder for consideration. It is recommended that TCHC complete its review and report back to the Shareholder prior to the next tenant election so that changes may be in effect for the 2017 tenant election process.

CONTACT

Sandra Rodriguez
Strategic and Corporate Policy Division
City Manager's Office
416-392-3832, srodrigu@toronto

SIGNATURE

John Livey
Acting City Manager

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Letter dated May 25, 2015 from Greg Spearn, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Community Housing Corporation