

# TWCA Toronto Women's City Alliance

## Making Equality Matter.

PG4.3.4

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015

Dear Councillor,

I am writing on behalf of Toronto Women's City Alliance. We are an organization comprised of diverse women working to end the silence of women and girls' voices in the municipal legislative arena.

I am writing with regard to Item PG 4.3 *Planning Act - Proposed Amendments Introduced Through Bill 73, Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, 2015*. This item has just been passed in an amended form by the Planning & Growth Management Committee and is due to come before City Council on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

I specifically wish to draw your attention to Committee recommendation # 29, which states that "City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to amend Bill 73 to make appropriate reforms to the Planning Act to include permissions for municipalities to enact inclusionary zoning for affordable housing of all types."

As it stands, Bill 73 makes no provision for either inclusionary zoning or any other measures to address the dire shortage of affordable housing in our city. As the waitlist for affordable housing continues to increase and no concrete resolution is immediately forthcoming to the backlog of repairs in the existing insufficient stock of affordable housing, City Council must make a determined effort to initiate the relevant change with the province of Ontario.

As the largest city in the province and Canada, Toronto City Council should take this opportunity to show leadership to the rest of the country in a crucial issue for the benefit of all Torontonians, particularly those living on low incomes. The development of an equitable city depends on it.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Kara Santokie, PhD  
Director  
Toronto Women's City Alliance

Toronto Women's City Alliance

c/o North York Women's Centre, 2446 Dufferin St., Toronto, ON M63 3T1  
www.twca.ca | info@twca.ca | 647-235-8575

