Toronto Police Accountability Coalition  
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June 30, 2015.

To: Mayor and Members of city council.

Subject: July 7 Council meeting,  
Appointments Committee recommendation for Toronto Police Services Board

The City’s Appointments Committee has recommended that Andrew Pringle be re-appointed to the Toronto Police Services Board until November 2018.

Mr Pringle has served on the Board for the last few years: he has skills as a member of many boards, and he has financial management skills.

Those are not the skills needed on the Toronto Police Services Board at this time. The skills needed relate to the cultural competencies of diverse ethno-racial groupings, particularly people of colour, since they face disproportionate and targeted policing in Toronto. The key issue facing the Toronto police service in the next year is how it can change in order to deliver fair and good service to people of colour. The Board needs someone who can speak for those communities, and perhaps someone who has experienced carding first hand. That’s the kind of person Council should be appointing to the Board.

We ask Council to refer this recommendation back to the Committee, and request it to come forward with the name of someone who is knowledgeable about and can speak for the communities of people of colour, to ensure they receive fair policing.

Yours very truly,

John Sewell, for  
Toronto Police Accountability Coalition.