



TORONTO STUDIOS™

May 24, 2016

**Delivered via E-mail**

Jennifer Forkes  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of the Executive Committee,

***Re: Item EX15.7, Implementation of the Mayor's Advisory Panel Recommendations for Future "Mega" International Event Bidding and Hosting in the Toronto Region***

On behalf of Pinewood Toronto Studios, we are supporting Toronto's further consideration of hosting Expo 2025; and in particular, for Toronto's Port Lands to be the Expo 2025 site. Toronto should encourage the Provincial and Federal governments to support this opportunity by making a commitment to review the civic benefits that will accrue for the host city. Anything less would be short sighted since significant infrastructure investment associated with this Expo bid will provide opportunities for decades to come. Expos have proven to be catalysts for youth and Toronto should be at the forefront of a sustainable future for the generations to come. A revitalized Port will play a strong role in Toronto's growth and opportunities for youth.

As you are aware, Pinewood Toronto Studios have been located in the Port Lands since 2008 and for the past seven years has been actively involved in the planning and visioning work to transform the Port Lands into an urban and dynamic film-friendly community. As the largest purpose built film studio in the City, we have to continually respond to the needs of our industry and the type of environment that it demands. We believe that the planned investment, including flood mitigation, public transit and mixed use vision for the Port Lands will be accelerated by the Expo bid and provide the necessary infrastructure for our industry to grow and compete with the best studio locations in the world. We do not agree with the thinking that an Expo bid will create conflicts with the industry. Our studio is designed to operate whatever activity is taking place on its borders. And surely, the industry cannot deny that what's good for the city must be good for the industry. Our offering here in Toronto to the film world is a strong mix of talent, financial incentives, recently developed studio space and equally important, the city itself. I see our Expo bid as an opportunity for the Industry to show our strengths, not something to be feared as disruptive.

We strongly encourage the City to continue to play a leadership role and continue to actively investigate how the Expo 2025 bid can inject significant infrastructure dollars that will transform Toronto's Port Lands and the City as a whole. We are a great city but we should not miss an opportunity to be better for all of its citizens.

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We thank you for your consideration and look forward to the next steps in this process.

Yours truly,



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**Paul Bronfman**

Chairman, Pinewood Toronto Studios & Chairman/CEO of Comweb Group Inc. and William F. White International Inc.

CC: Mike Williams, City of Toronto; Blake Steels, PTS; John Langs, Director, PTS; Don Logie, Director, PTS; Mike Feldman, Director, PTS; Brian Topp, Director, PTS; John Sterling, Director, PTS; Alfredo Romano, Director, PTS; Elsa Fancello, Castlepoint Numa; Michael Kraljevic, TPLC