



(SLNA) 230 The Esplanade Toronto ON M5E 1T4

slna@slna.ca www.slna.ca

May 19, 2016

By email: exec@toronto.ca

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

Re: EX 15.7 - Implementation of the Mayor's Advisory Panel Recommendations for Future "Mega" International Event Bidding and Hosting in the Toronto Region

Dear Executive Committee:

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association is an association of residents in the St. Lawrence area of the City of Toronto and is incorporated as a non-profit corporation; the SLNA has served the St. Lawrence neighbourhood and its 30,000-35,000 residents since 1982. The SLNA is an advocate for responsible development and promotes public and pedestrian safety, organizes events and celebrations, and champions our neighbourhood's interests with all levels of government. The St. Lawrence is a mixed-income, ethnically diverse residential area and commercial neighbourhood adjoining the central business district; it extends from Queen Street East south to the rail corridor and from Yonge Street east to Parliament Street.

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association supports the bid for World Expo 2025. The City of Toronto has demonstrated that it has the bench strength to lead this bid as demonstrated by the success of the PanAm/ParaPanAm Games.

The benefits list is endless: accelerate the development of the Portlands, affordable housing, engage youth as part of our city-building through employment opportunities and volunteer experiences. We know that entering the arena at the world stage offers challenges but it is outweighed by the opportunities. We say we are a world-class city and this is another way to demonstrate that. We want to be at the table where the global conversations are being held.

On a personal note as a child I was at Expo 67, I pulled out my passport that I still have when I attended in Montreal. My family packed up and headed to this event and it was life changing for us all. If we can replicate that feeling with so many youth it would be transformative. This is an opportunity for the millennial generation to lead, they are connected to social media and eager to connect now. They have led the way with engaging with projects such as Nuit Blanche.

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association is confident that we have arrived. We have arrived as far as running world-class events and we must take the lead on the bid for Expo 2025.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kavanagh, President
SLNA

cc.

Councillor Pam McConnell
SLNA Board of Directors