June 25, 2018

12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Attention: Marilyn Toft
e-mail: clerk@toronto.ca

RE: EX35.2 Community Council Boundaries and Implementation of Ward Boundary By-laws including Naming Wards

Dear Mayor Tory and Councillors,

FoNTRA recommends that City Council consider the following amendment to the resolution regarding this item adopted by Executive Committee:

- That (in addition to adopting the Staff Report Recommendation with respect to the community council boundaries for the 2018-2022 term of Council), City Council further direct the City Manager to conduct research and community consultations concerning the feasibility of creating an additional Community Council to take effect for the 2022-2026 term of Council, and report back to the Executive Committee in the second quarter of 2020..

At the Executive Committee on June 19, several resident associations (including LPOA, SERRA, LPRO, and EPRA) requested a fifth community council for Mid-Town. While the Committee made it clear that this was not feasible for the 2018-2022 term of Council, for a number of reasons, Council may be open to consideration of an option that allows for future change, such as a fifth community council, if sufficient time is allowed for a proper review of the implications, and its implementation, if approved.

The reasons for this request include:

1. the need for recognition and representation of Midtown Toronto, a Growth Centre experiencing unprecedented growth that needs a unified voice in Council to ensure that attention can be given to ensuring that services are in place to support the growth;

2. The Minimal Change Option continues the status quo situation whereby the Toronto and East York Community Council handles a disproportionate share of Agenda Items, resulting in residents seeking to depute experiencing long
delays, and councillors experiencing excessive workloads leading to insufficient time and attention to matters deserving of their attention.

(3) Public consultation on the Options for Community Council Boundaries was insufficient and rushed. By contrast, the earlier Ward Boundary Review involved extensive public consultation, and was before Executive Committee twice prior to City Council approval.

Our recommendation is similar to, consistent with and supportive of the recommendation put forward by the Bloor East Neighbourhood Association, and we request that Council give careful consideration to each.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel
Co-Chair, FoNTRA
Toronto, Ontario

Cathie Macdonald
Co-Chair, FoNTRA
Toronto, ON

c.c. Giuliana Carbone, Interim City Manager
Gwen McIntosh, A/Executive Director, Strategic & Corporate Policy,
John Elvidge, Deputy City Clerk, Secretariat, City Clerk’s Office,
Meg Shields, A/Director, Corporate Policy, Strategic & Corporate Policy,
Gregg Lintern, Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division
Kerri Voumvakis, Director, Strategic Initiatives, City Planning Division

The Federation of North Toronto Residents’ Associations (FoNTRA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents’ associations, include at least 170,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents’ associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not whether Toronto will grow, but how. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.