



April 29, 2019

To: Deputy Mayor Ana Bailão, Chair, Planning & Housing Committee
Members, Planning & Housing Committee

From: Daryl Chong, Greater Toronto Apartment Association

Re: PH5.6 Vital Service Disruptions in Apartment Buildings

The Greater Toronto Apartment Association (“GTAA”) represents the interests of the multi-family, purpose-built rental housing industry. Our members own and manage more than 150,000 units of multi-family, purpose-built rental housing in the GTA, mostly in the City of Toronto.

We closely monitored the unfortunate electrical incidents in St. James Town. We then initiated several meetings with the Electrical Safety Association (ESA), Toronto Fire Services (TFS) and Municipal Licensing & Standards (MLS) to better understand what happened and how we could prevent similar occurrences across the city.

We share the common goal of safely housing our residents in our apartments and apartment communities.

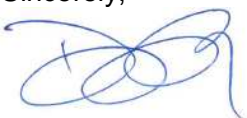
Providing purpose-built rental housing is complex with many rules, regulations and standards, each the responsibility of municipal and provincial governments, their administrative authorities and departments, and others.

A main role for GTAA is to provide our members with education. Over the past few years we have hosted more than a dozen seminars featuring senior officials from ESA, TSSA, TFS and MLS to provide apartment owners and managers with the latest information. We proactively educate our members to meet regulatory compliance in cooperation with the appropriate bodies that govern each aspect of providing rental housing.

GTAA generally supports the recommendations in the report. Further, we can assist with the dissemination of the voluntary contact list requirements; development and maintenance of a reasonable electrical maintenance plan; provide templates for use to retain logs of service and maintenance performed by licensed tradespeople.

We will continue to work cooperatively with city officials, relevant administrative authorities and others to ensure regulatory compliance.

Sincerely,



Daryl Chong
President & CEO
Greater Toronto Apartment Association