

PH11.11.7

From: Aaron Caplan
To: [Planning and Housing](#)
Subject: Request to depute re: Planning and Housing Dec 10th Planning and Housing Committee Meeting Agenda item PH11.11 Promoting the Security of Residential Rental Tenancies
Date: December 9, 2019 10:20:43 AM
Attachments: [PH11 Toronto St.Paul's Tenant Associations Network deputation.docx](#)

I am requesting time to present a deputation regarding agenda item PH 11.11 **Promoting the Security of Residential Rental Tenancies**

My deputation is attached.

If further information is required, please let me know.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Best regards

Aaron Caplan

Co-chair
Toronto St.Paul's Tenant Associations Network

PH11.11 Promoting the Security of Residential Rental Tenancies

The Toronto St. Paul's Tenant Associations Network

<https://sites.google.com/view/st-pauls-tenants-network/> strongly endorses the recommendations outlined in the Letter from the Subcommittee on the Protection of Affordable Rental Housing <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.PH11.11>

The letter from the Subcommittee on the Protection of Affordable Rental Housing states in part:

2. The Planning and Housing Committee request the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat and the General Manager, Shelter Support and Housing Administration to establish a 'Protection of Rental Housing Advisory Group' consisting of staff from City divisions, people with lived-experience, tenant advocacy groups, landlords, and legal clinics to provide advice to the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat on affordable rental housing issues that impact tenants.

We are very pleased to note that the Subcommittee on the Protection of Affordable Rental Housing recognizes the importance of establishing a “Protection of Rental Housing Advisory Group” which will allow tenants with lived-experience as well as tenant advocacy groups the opportunity to provide advice to the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat on affordable rental housing issues that impact tenants.

We look forward to reviewing the terms of reference of the Advisory Group to better understand the scope of the tenant advice that may be offered.

The letter from the Subcommittee on the Protection of Affordable Rental Housing also states in part:

3. The Planning and Housing Committee request the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat and the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to work with the “Protection of Rental Housing Advisory Group” on the following matters:

a. The development of public educational materials and awareness campaigns, including but not limited to posting information on tenant's rights and resources available to protect those rights on apartment building notice boards, providing it to the constituency office staff of all Toronto City Councillors, Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament in the first quarter of 2020;

The development of public educational materials and awareness campaigns, including but not limited to posting information on tenant's rights and resources available to protect those rights on apartment building notice boards is an important step forward in educating tenants; as the vast majority of tenants have either no or a weak understanding of their rights.

A significant challenge faced by Tenant Associations and Tenant Advocacy groups is the inability to post information on tenant's rights and resources in an apartment building common area near the established Tenant Notification Board. If tenants are afforded any opportunity by the Landlord to post material, it is often relegated to the laundry room, which is often not frequented by all tenants. As a result, the recommendation that information on tenant rights be posted on apartment building notice boards is a major break through, particularly if the notice board is situated next to the Tenants Notification Board.

TSPTAN is not only strongly supportive of the recommendations outlined in the Letter from the Subcommittee on the Protection of Affordable Rental Housing, but also prepared to work closely with City Officials in advising on the implementation of the recommendations through the work of the Advisory Group.

