December 10, 2018

RE: Equitable Representation on Key City Committees

Dear Mayor Tory, and Members of Striking Committee,

The Executive Committee, together with the Standing Committees, are of paramount importance in the City's policy decision-making process. We believe that at least a minimum level of equitable representation should be provided for all areas of the amalgamated City.

City Council has recently adopted a new Standing Committee system consisting of four new interim Standing Committees:
1. Economic and Community Development Committee
2. General Government and Licensing Committee
3. Infrastructure and Environment Committee
4. Planning and Housing Committee

Our Federation includes residents associations from North York, and Toronto and East York Community Councils areas, and we expect that they will be periodic, or frequent deputants at Executive Committee, standing committees, and the respective community councils. However, we are convinced that residents across the City would desire that the community council to which they relate should be represented on Executive Committee and all standing committees, especially given the newly downsized City Council.

We therefore recommend that the Mayor and the Striking Committee ensure that each of the four Community Council areas (Etobicoke, North York, Toronto & East York, and Scarborough) are represented on the Executive Committee, and on each of the four Standing Committees.

We believe this is an essential element in maintaining the trust of residents in the fairness of the City's decision-making processes.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Cathie Macdonald
Co-Chair, FoNTRA
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.