



January 28, 2020

12th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
 100 Queen Street West  
 Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
 Attention: Marilyn Toft  
 email: [councilmeeting@toronto.ca](mailto:councilmeeting@toronto.ca)

**RE: IE11.1 2018 Tree Canopy Study**

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of City Council,

We are the collective voice for neighbourhood associations in North Toronto and North York and have many concerns about the ongoing health and sustainability of our tree canopy. We are writing to voice our support of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee recommendations.

Specifically, we support: using the findings in the 2018 Tree Canopy Study to inform ongoing programming; to increase tree planting and maintenance on private land; to increase the tree canopy to 40%; to facilitate plans to enhance the tree canopy in identified neighbourhoods that have experienced significant losses; and to facilitate the enforcement of tree protection.

As climate change remains an ongoing challenge, planting and maintaining trees is critical. Trees not only add to the liveability and enjoyment of a neighbourhood, they represent a first line defence against climate change and its effects. We also support Toronto's growth strategy being balanced with environmental and urban forest sustainability objectives. This includes the resiliency of surface areas since developmental pressures are decreasing open spaces and their permeability.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel  
 Co-Chair, FoNTRA

██████████  
 ██████████  
 ██████████

[gkettel@gmail.com](mailto:gkettel@gmail.com)

Cathie Macdonald  
 Co-Chair, FoNTRA

██████████  
 ██████████  
 ██████████

[cathie.macdonald@sympatico.ca](mailto:cathie.macdonald@sympatico.ca)

Cc: Janie Romoff, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

**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.