



September 29, 2020

12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Attention: Marilyn Toft

RE: **PH16.4 Addressing the Committee of Adjustment COVID-19 Related Application Backlog**

Dear Mayor John Tory and Members of City Council,

This is to advise that FoNTRA supports the Planning and Housing Committee (PHC) recommendation that:

1. *City Council resolve that, notwithstanding Section 4-2 of the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 4, Adjustment, Committee of, and By-law 1134-2019, **all Districts and Panels will be comprised of a majority of previously appointed members of for those hearings**, with cross-appointed members representing a minority of those Districts and Panels, until the end of November 14, 2022.*

The point (which was reiterated by several Councillors at PHC) is that applications need to be heard by members from the applicable district. We understand the intent would be to cross-appoint members (particularly of the Etobicoke and Scarborough panels) to the TEY Panel in order to expedite the backlog in TEY.

Unfortunately the North York Committee of Adjustment hearings schedule from October 7 to November 19 includes cases switched from other districts. The October 7 agenda, the one with a published agenda, has four cases from TEY. We wonder how residents of the Beach and Parkdale/High Park will appreciate having their cases dealt with by North York CofA (assuming they are made aware of this).

What has happened here in North York on October 7 is a **switching of cases** between districts, not **cross-appointment** of members. We do not believe that this practice meets the intent of the PHC resolution, and we request that it cease.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Toronto, Ontario

Cathie Macdonald
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Toronto, ON

Cc: Gregg Lintern, Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division
Michael Mizzi, Director, Zoning and Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

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.