



June 26, 2020

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

RE: MM22.38 Changes to City of Toronto Act Regulations Concerning Construction Noise By-laws

Dear Mayor Tory and Councillors,

This correspondence is provided to indicate our strong support for Councillor Matlow's Motion that "City Council request the Government of Ontario to repeal Limitation 2 to Ontario Regulation 130/20 of the City of Toronto Act, returning the power to regulate construction noise to the City of Toronto". Limitation 2 to Ontario Regulation 130/20, enacted April 7, 2020, does not allow the City to regulate or prohibit noise in connection with construction. The Regulation overrides the City of Toronto's municipal noise by-law, through to October 7, 2021 to the detriment of residents.

FoNTRA wrote to the Premier on April 19 to request that this measure (as well as making residential construction an essential service, opening a significant risk of COVID-19 infection to workers) be reversed. Excessive noise is a health hazard that impacts the physical and mental health, and quality of life of residents. Toronto's Noise By-law permits construction to operate Monday to Friday 7 am to 7 pm, Saturdays 9 am to 7 pm, and not at all on Sundays and statutory holidays. Allowing construction equipment to operate from 6 am to 10 pm, 7 days a week, including holidays, at a time when many more people will be exposed as they are now at home is both inappropriate as a policy measure, and harmful to Toronto residents.

We have received numerous complaints from individuals and resident associations. Opening of noise permissions must stop as soon as possible, and not be open until 2021. Given the impacts on public health of excessive noise, the government's decisions to reduce or open restrictions must be made on the basis of public health advice, and not on sectoral influence. We question whether this measure passes this test.

We support the City urging the Province to reverse this measure, and eliminate the override on the City of Toronto's Noise By-Law.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

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Cathie Macdonald

Co-Chair, FoNTRA

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[Redacted]
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Cc: Toronto Office of Rebuild and Recovery
Tracey Cook, Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards
CORRA

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.