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Toronto City Hall
City Council - 12th floor, West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
e:mail: councilmeeting@toronto.ca

Attn: Marilyn Toft, Council Secretariat and
Mayor John Tory

**Re: PH27.2 Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas
Phase 1 Final Report: Phase 2 Update**

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council:

On behalf of Habonim Dror Zionist Youth Movement, I wish to express our concern and alarm with respect to the report on Zoning By-Law conformity for employment zones in the Official Plan, specifically the proposed removal of permissions for bingo halls and related uses in the Former City of Etobicoke Zoning By-Law. (Attachment 9 to the Final Report)

Our charity is one of 66 local charities that rely on Delta Bingo and Gaming St. Clair to support our organization. Without that support we will simply not be able to carry our programmes and services that provide a direct benefit to Toronto children.

Funds raised at Delta Bingo allow under-privileged children to attend summer sleep over camp. Two or three events are held each month for children/youth between ages 7 to 16. Activities include lectures on current issues such as bullying in schools, physical fitness, the environment and the importance of helping each other. Role playing and other interactives games are used to teach the importance of sharing, tolerance and sporting others in our community to name just a few.

The last 18 months have been very challenging for everyone, and our organization is no exception. We have struggled to survive with very little funding as Delta St. Clair was closed for 420 days over the course of the pandemic. And, due to a proposed expropriation from the City of Toronto and Metrolinx, the Delta St. Clair location will have to move to another site. The new site (L60 Evans Ave.) is currently zoned to allow for a Bingo Hall. Under the proposed By-Law amendment that permission would be revoked.

As you can appreciate, finding an appropriate venue at a reasonable price in the current real estate environment is a real challenge. We are looking forward to the move this permission and allow us to re-locate as planned with the current permission.

Based on the concerns identifies above, we respectfully request that the Draft By-laws and report, specifically as it applies to the use of employment lands for bingo halls, is removed entirely or in the very least referred back to City Planning staff for dedication public consultation and review. Thank you for your kind consideration and look forward to further discussions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Lorraine Levene

Habonim Dror Youth Organization