



Councillor Paul W. Ainslie
City of Toronto Councillor
Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

Chair, General Government and Licensing Committee
Chair, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo



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Councillor Paul Ainslie Scarborough-Guildwood

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Date: September 9, 2021

To: Mayor John Tory, Chair and Executive Committee Members

Re: Implementation of an e-petition platform at the City of Toronto

Recommendations:

1. City Council adopt an electronic petition (e-petition) system.
 - a) The e-petition system be a neutral e-petition platform integrated into the City of Toronto website.
 - b) The City Clerk report to the Executive Committee at the December 7, 2021 meeting on the e-petition system, process and prerequisites required for the e-petition to be supported on the City of Toronto Web site.
 - c) The City Clerk implement an e-petition system for public use by December 31, 2021

In 2021, it has become clear an e-petition platform is necessary for the City of Toronto to engage with our residents. During COVID-19, it was clear e-petitions were necessary as stay at home orders prevented the collection of hard copy signatures in person. This delay in democracy could have been averted if an e-petitions platform was available to Toronto residents. It has been proven, specifically during the 2020-2021 pandemic period we can ensure the implementation of an electronic platform

Several governments, for several years, including the Federal government of Canada have made e-petitions a legal and acceptable method to collect residents stand on issues in the form of petitions,

The link to the Federal government e-petition website, <https://petitions.parl.gc.ca/en/Home/Index>.

It is clearly evident we are in need of a City of Toronto e-petition platform.

I look forward to everyone's support and the implementation of this electronic platform.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ainslie
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