



August 9, 2023

Olivia Chow  
Mayor, City of Toronto  
City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Chow:

Re: City Council Agenda Item CC9.1  
Filling the Vacancy in Ward 20

Tomorrow, City Council will consider whether to fill this vacancy by appointing a councillor or by calling a by-election.

SCRO encourages City Council to fill this vacancy through a by-election.

While appointing a councillor can be the pragmatic solution when the remaining term of Council is short, it is more difficult to defend from an accountability perspective when there are more than three years remaining in the current term of Council.

We note that a by-election is also being recommended by Scarborough United Neighbourhoods and by others in this ward.

We encourage Council to provide an opportunity for Ward 20's engaged and passionate residents, who are deeply invested in the well-being of their community, to elect a new councillor, to provide Ward 20 residents with the kind of democratic accountability that only a by-election can provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Whatmore', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Larry Whatmore  
President  
(416) 562-2101

cc: Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie  
Councillor Michael Thompson  
Councillor Paul Ainslie  
Councillor Nick Mantas  
Councillor Jamaal Myers  
City Clerk