

From: [Ryan White](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Open letter from 48 business leaders for 2024.IE15.2 on July 24, 2024 City Council
Date: July 23, 2024 1:35:22 PM
Attachments: [StakeholdersLetter_FINAL_July 23, 2024.pdf](#)

To the City Clerk:

Please add the attached letter from 48 business leaders to the agenda for the July 24, 2024 City Council meeting on item 2024.IE15.2, Toronto Island Park Master Plan

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

See attached pdf.

Securing the Long-Term Future of Billy Bishop Airport

We have come together through this open letter to express our collective support for the long-term future of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. Recognizing the critical role that Billy Bishop Airport plays in facilitating travel, supporting economic growth, supporting life-saving medical access and connecting communities, we believe it is essential to advocate for its sustained operation and development.

Billy Bishop Airport is a vital asset for businesses and travelers. Its strategic location in downtown Toronto not only provides convenient access to the city's financial, business, visitor and cultural districts, but also serves as a gateway for regional and international travel. The airport's unique proximity to key economic centers and its efficient operations contribute significantly to the competitiveness and productivity of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, the businesses that operate here and their employees.

Representing a diverse range of industries, sectors, and communities, the importance of this reliable and efficient transportation hub cannot be understated. The time is now for all orders of government to collaborate and agree to a long-term future for Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.

82%

of Torontonians believe Billy Bishop Airport is a good use of land.

\$2.1B

growing to \$5.3 Billion in annual economic output.

87%

of Torontonians believe it makes sense for the city to have an airport downtown.

20

direct connections and 80+ indirect.

9th

busiest airport in Canada, 5th busiest Canada-US air crossing and future home of US preclearance.

85

years connecting people where they want to be & the medical services they require.

Signed,

Giles Gherson,
President & CEO
Toronto Region Board of Trade

Stephen Lund,
CEO
Toronto Global

Andrew Weir,
President & CEO
Destination Toronto

Sara Anghel,
President & CEO
Greater Toronto Hotels Association

Craig McLuckie,
President
Toronto Industry Network

John Kiru,
Executive Director
Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas

Tim Kocur,
Executive Director
Waterfront BIA

Grant Humes,
Executive Director
Toronto Financial District BIA

Michael Phan,
Chairperson
Wexford Heights BIA

Ron Pellerine,
Interim President & CEO
Metro Toronto Convention Centre

Don Boyle,
CEO
Exhibition Place

Guled Warsame,
President
UNITE HERE Local 75

Mike Scott,
Vice President
Local 793 of the International Union of Operating Engineers

Larry Tanenbaum,
Chairperson & CEO
Kilmer Van Nostrand Co. Limited.

Michael Deluce,
CEO
Porter Airlines

Ronald Cohn,
President & CEO
Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids)

Tim Rutledge,
President & CEO
Unity Health Toronto

Jennifer Barnard,
President & CEO
SickKids Foundation

Mark Rubinstein,
Chief Hope Officer
Hope Air

Marguerite Pyron,
CEO
Broad Reach Canada

Jeremy Diamond,
CEO
Royal Canadian Air Force Foundation

Lisa Raitt,
Former Minister of Transport

Perrin Beatty,
President & CEO
Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Daniel Tisch,
President & CEO
Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Dennis Darby,
President and CEO
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters

Monette Pasher,
President
Canadian Airport Council

Natasha Gagnon,
CEO
Ontario Aerospace Council

Andrew Siegwart,
President & CEO
Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO)

Rebecca Mackenzie,
President & CEO
Culinary Tourism Alliance

David MacLachlan,
Executive Director
Destination Northern Ontario

Michael Crockatt,
President & CEO
Ottawa Tourism

Laura Dawson,
Executive Director
Future Border Coalition

Mark Fisher,
CEO
Council of the Great Lakes Region

Magali Simard,
Director Industry Relations & Community Relations
Cinespace Studios

Kenneth Tanenbaum,
Founder and Chairman
Kilmer Developments

Dr. Ann Marie Vaughan,
President and CEO
Humber Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning

Ajay Mehra,
CEO
TOK Group

Peter Dobrowolski,
Senior Vice President
Bee-Clean Building Maintenance

Bob Stanton,
Senior Vice President, Business Development
SSP Canada

James Schmitz
Vice President Business Development
Hudson/Dufry ... an Avolta Company

Dionne Bishop,
CEO
Events by Dionne

Dale Wishewan,
President & CEO
Booster Juice

Christina Ogrodnick,
Vice President, Commercial
Pattison Outdoor Advertising

Shaun Francis Ruddy,
Chair
St. Patrick's Parade Society of Toronto

Greg Elmhirst,
Elmhirst's Resort

Gavin Quinn,
Quinn Hospitality Group

Jorge Da Silva,
Director of Airport Lounges
Swissport North America

Sarah Murphy,
Executive Director
Ireland Canada Chamber of Commerce, Toronto