



October 7, 2024

Members of Toronto City Council
councilmeeting@toronto.ca

Subject: Item EX17.5. Billy Bishop Airport RESA

We are writing about the upcoming vote at Council regarding City Staff's report on the RESA requirements at the Toronto Island Airport. We are extremely concerned about the misleading information that Ports Toronto and Nieuport are making, claiming that citizen groups are asking for, or are in favour of, RESA 2 or 3. This is untrue.

The Staff report clearly recommends that the least expensive, least intrusive, and most affordable option is RESA 1. It meets the safety requirement of Transport Canada. Amending the Tripartite Agreement to extend Ports Toronto's lease beyond the 2033 deadline is not recommended at this time. The City believes that it needs time to review the use of the airport lands as to how they fit into the future of Toronto's waterfront through a robust, transparent public process, before the City can consider and extension to the tripartite agreement. This cannot be a rushed decision.

We, along with all the other community groups that deputed to the Executive Committee, fully support the Staff report. Toronto and Nieuport's lobbying assertions that community groups are calling for the support of the more expensive and extensive RESA 2 and 3, which would require a 40-year extension to the Tripartite Agreement, is false.

At the City's public meeting on September 24, at which over 250 people attended, no one spoke in support of RESA 2 or 3, or the extension of the Tripartite Agreement. Likewise, those many community members and organizations who deputed to Executive Committee on October 1 held the same opinion. The Toronto Island Community Association stands alongside those same community groups (BQNA, FoSTRA, FoNTRA, YQNA, Waterfront for All), in support of RESA 1 and no extension to the Tripartite Agreement at this time.



The spreading of misinformation by Ports Toronto and Nieuport is extremely concerning. It is imperative you trust that your staff have done due diligence in this matter and are acting in the best interests of safety and the City's interests, rather than listening to untruths spread by what should be an honourable airport industry.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Tony Farebrother', written in a cursive style.

Tony Farebrother,
Chair TICA

CC
Office of the Mayor
Offices of City Council Members