



May 28, 2024

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Attention: Nancy Martins

**Re: EC13.4 Plan to Develop the Third Toronto Seniors Strategy**

Dear Chair Alejandra Bravo, and Members, Economic and Community Development Committee,

We agree that Toronto's senior population is growing, with increasing diversity and evolving priorities for aging in place. As such, we support the development of a third Toronto Seniors Strategy that develops and adapt City programs, policies, and strategic initiatives to better support aging in place. However, we suggest that the **stakeholders' list be widened to include residents' and tenants' organizations, which have lived experience in community.**

Aging in place is a most desirable goal and practice that supports healthy aging while allowing seniors to remain in the most appropriate setting, based on their needs and preferences. Seniors are increasingly expressing a desire to age in place in their homes, and will require various community and social supports. Beyond supports, we believe that **the planning concept of "complete communities"** is relevant here too.

We note the proposal for a multi-modal community consultation process that aims to gather perspectives from several key stakeholder groups including, but not limited to: Seniors, older adults, caregivers, organizations that serve seniors, City staff, and subject matter experts. We suggest that this list is too narrow, and should be widened to include residents and tenants organizations, which have lived experience in community and understand the need for complete communities.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel  
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Cathie Macdonald  
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Cc: Leslie McCallum, Director, Seniors Services and Community Programs  
Jennifer Dockery, General Manager, Seniors Services and Long-Term Care  
Kerri Voumvakis, Interim Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning

**The Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA)** is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents' associations, include at least 250,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents' associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not *whether* Toronto will grow, but *how*. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.