



June 17, 2024

John Elvidge
City Clerk
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

RE: Administrative Inquiry: Removal of City Symbols

Dear Mr. Elvidge,

I am submitting this Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-7.11 for the June 26, 2024 meeting of City Council.

On May 26, 2024, and June 2, 2024, journalist Justin Holmes published two *Toronto Sun* stories outlining a series of activities that happened within the Toronto Public Service that ultimately led to the removal of historical Coats of Arms from public display.

These articles may be found online here:

<https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/coat-of-secrecy-city-bureaucrats-wanted-public-in-dark-about-symbols-removal>

<https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/disarming-t-o-how-one-man-waged-a-silent-war-against-a-city-symbol>

The articles prompt a number of questions which I would like answered:

What City symbols, including Coats of Arms, flags, monuments and art have been removed?

Who made the decision to remove them?

Why were they removed? Were they the subject of a complaint, and if so, what was the complaint, when was the complaint, and where did it come from?

Are there any more symbols, including Coats of Arms, flags, monuments and art expected to be removed? If so, what is under consideration and why?

Sincerely,

Stephen Holyday
Councillor
Ward 2, Etobicoke Centre