



December 15, 2024

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Attention: Sylwia Przewdziecki

**RE: MM24.15 - Toward Municipal Autonomy and Effective Local Governance -  
by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Jamaal Myers**

This is to confirm that FoNTRA strongly supports the Members Motion which recommends that:

**1. City Council request the City Manager to establish a Program Advisory Body on Municipal Autonomy and Effective Local Governance.**

As a federation of residents associations we are well aware, and extremely troubled, by the overreach of the Province and the City's inability to manage development.. Residents in many cases are simply unaware of the extent of overreach of the Province on numerous matters, such as Official Plan Amendments (e.g. OPA 405 Yonge Eglinton Secondary Plan), Minister's Zoning orders (MZOs), elimination of heritage listing status after two years (Bill 23) etc, and most recently, the authority to remove bike lanes (Bill 212).

We agree with the Member's Motion that "Toronto needs a new arrangement with senior levels of government that ensures we have the independence necessary for 21st century cities to thrive and achieve results for residents". Without this the City faces a slow decline, and a massive loss of democracy.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel  
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Cathie Macdonald  
Co-Chair, FoNTRA

Cc: FoSTRA, SUN, CORRA

**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.