



December 5, 2025

Toronto City Council  
General Government Committee

Dear Toronto City Council and General Government Committee;

Re: Capital Group of Companies - item 2025.GG26.3

I am a Sector Coordinator from the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 793 ("Local 793"). I am responsible for members and contractors working in the sewers and watermain and utilities sectors. Local 793 is a trade union representing approximately 21,000 members in the construction, industrial and mining sectors in the Province of Ontario and the Territory of Nunavut. Local 793 members build the infrastructure that keeps Ontario moving across all sectors including roads, sewers and watermains, residential, heavy civil, power sector, pipeline and industrial, commercial and institutional sectors.

I am writing this letter in response to the proposed 5-year ban being considered by Toronto City Council against Capital Group of Companies.

Five Capital group of companies are in collective bargaining relationship with Local 793. These Capital group of companies currently employs approximately 60 members of Local 793 who are highly skilled and specialized in their field of expertise. The services that Capital provides to the City of Toronto through highly skilled members of Local 793 are critical to the everyday needs of residents, businesses, and industries across the City. This includes highly specialized and unique repairs and maintenance to the City's ageing underground infrastructure through using a trenchless technology known as Cured-in-Place-Pipe.

Capital is one of only a handful of contractors that offer this service and the only one that does it through Capital a vertically integrated operation. It is a level of service that has been used by the City to address high-risk, high-profile repairs to critical infrastructure that often pose technical challenges for difficult to access underground piping. A number of these high-profile repairs are performed on an emergency basis and often awarded to Capital, after others have refused to take the repairs on.

As a result of Capital's unique technology and expertise, should the City of Toronto institute a 5-year ban against Capital, eighty skilled members of Local 793 will be out of work and unlikely to find equivalent employment with other signatory companies. This would be a massive blow to these sixty Operating Engineers who rely on their employment to support their families and through no fault of their own, find themselves facing employment uncertainty. Good paying Union jobs need to be preserved, and hard-working skilled tradespersons should not be penalized and lose their livelihoods.

There are many other options available to the City of Toronto to ensure oversight and compliance short of a 5-year ban on Capital and these should be explored to help preserve the high-paying union jobs Capital provides. Local 793 stands with its members who will be directly impacted by a ban on Capital and requests the City of Toronto and this Committee consider the devastating impact this loss of work will have on real hard-working skilled tradespersons.

Sincerely,

Bob Brooks  
Sector Coordinator, International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 793