

## **councilmeeting**

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**From:** Alanna Marchese <amarchese@globalmedic.ca>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2026 4:28 PM  
**To:** councilmeeting  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2026.PH27.20 on February 4, 2026 City Council

**Categories:** Communication (New)

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the February 4, 2026 City Council meeting on item 2026.PH27.20, Preserving Employment Lands and Protecting Local Jobs

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to you from the David McAntony Gibson Foundation (GlobalMedic), a registered Canadian charity providing life-saving disaster relief and humanitarian aid since 2002. Founded by a first responder, staffed by professional humanitarians, and backed by a team of emergency workers and skilled volunteers, GlobalMedic has responded to 276 disasters in 90 countries to date. Our organization has provided emergency support such as food, water purification/hygiene, shelter, and medical services to over 6 million people in need.

On behalf of GlobalMedic, I write to express strong support for agenda item *PH27.20 – Preserving Employment Lands and Protecting Local Jobs*, which will come before the Council on February 4. GlobalMedic operates multiple warehouses in south Etobicoke, each of which are used to prepare and distribute life-saving aid including food, fire skids, water filtration systems, solar lights, and hygiene kits. While some of this aid will make its way overseas, some will remain in Ontario, supporting local food banks and providing reprieve to families in distress. While procuring and preparing aid, GlobalMedic creates jobs, supports work performed by other charitable organizations, and engages thousands of volunteers from across the province.

Our operations are made possible through the ready availability of employment land, which houses our warehouses and office space. Demand for employment land, particularly within the GTA, is experiencing sustained growth that outpaces supply, resulting in a *tripling* of the price of employment land since 2010. In light of the growing number of new industrial-to-residential conversion applications in Toronto (including three new applications in south Etobicoke), GlobalMedic is deeply concerned that diminishing supply will price out many employers. Charitable organizations like GlobalMedic, which often operate on thin margins, are particularly vulnerable to rising costs.

While GlobalMedic is cognizant of the nation-wide housing crisis and the challenges it presents for Torontonians, gains made in housing availability are rendered meaningless if accompanied by major

losses in employment. By voting to protect employment lands, the Council will also vote to protect jobs, safeguard domestic manufacturing, and secure the continued efforts of organizations like GlobalMedic to protect vulnerable communities, both abroad and here in Toronto.

Yours sincerely,

Rahul Singh, O. Ont  
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