

## 8

## Activity 8: Passing A By-law

In this challenge, you are being given the opportunity to develop a new By-law for the City of Toronto based on an area of municipal concern you believe needs to be changed. This area of concern can be something you have observed in your community or a current election issue.

Your tasks are:

1. **By-law Ideas Writing:** Working in groups of 4/5, each member of your group will first **develop individual ideas** for a new By-law and record it on the organizer. To help assist you with identifying an area of concern which may need to be addressed in your community, review the chart below from the City of Toronto's Standing Policy Committees that outlines the many areas in which city By-laws are developed:

### Standing Policy Committees<sup>1</sup>

Committee	Focus
Community Development & Recreation	Social inclusion and undertaking work to strengthen services to communities and neighbourhoods. Recreation examples include swimming pools, hockey arenas and roller skating rinks.
Economic Development	Monitors and makes recommendations to strengthen Toronto's economy and investment climate.
Government Management	Government assets and resources; monitors and makes recommendations on the administrative operations of the City.
Licensing & Standards	Consumer safety and protection; monitors and makes recommendations on the licensing of business and the enforcement of property standards.
Parks & Environment	Monitors, makes recommendations and undertakes work to ensure the sustainability of Toronto's natural environment.
Planning & Growth Management	Urban form and work related to good city planning; monitors and makes recommendations on the planning, growth and development of the City.
Public Works & Infrastructure	Delivers and maintains Toronto's infrastructure; monitors and makes recommendations on Toronto's infrastructure needs and services.

<sup>1</sup>City of Toronto. (n.d.). Learning material: Decision-making. Retrieved May 23, 2010, from <http://www.toronto.ca/civic-engagement/learning-material/decision-making.htm>

2. **Pass-It-On:** Upon completion of all of your individual group members' By-law ideas, each member will pass his/her organizer to the person on their left - and will receive one from their right - in order to **read and then write** thoughts to assist with incorporating additional ideas and building more content into the By-laws. Organizers are passed until they return to the original writer.
3. **Revised Writing:** As the original writer, you are to decide which new ideas, suggestions and recommendations about your By-law you will retain, and then **re-write your By-law** in order to present it for a group vote.
4. **Group Vote and Writing:** After each member presents their By-law, group members **vote on one** By-law they wish to **prepare in proper By-law format** to propose to the class to pass. Examples of how the City of Toronto's By-laws are **written and formatted** can be found at the City of Toronto website:  
  
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/bylaws/2010/index.htm>.
5. **Class Presentation and Voting:** Each group presents their By-law to the class for a **discussion, and question and answer period** which is then followed by a full class vote on whether to accept or reject the new By-law. Students are to fill out the By-Law Proposal Pros & Cons T-Chart to help them inform their discussions & formulate their decisions.
6. After all of the presentations are completed, each student will be called upon to register their vote publicly. All By-Laws receiving a majority of class votes will be considered as passed!

## SAMPLE BY-LAW FROM THE CITY OF TORONTO<sup>2</sup>

Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council Item 31.54, as adopted by Toronto and East York Community Council on February 9, 2010 under the delegated authority of Sections 27-149B and 27-152E(5) of Chapter 27, Council Procedures, of the City of Toronto Municipal Code

Enacted by Toronto and East York Community Council: March 9, 2010

### **CITY OF TORONTO** BY-LAW No. 291-2010

**To name the public lane located south of Harbord Street as “Louie Laki Lane”.**

WHEREAS City of Toronto Council has delegated the legislative authority for local routine matters, such as the naming of public lanes, to Community Councils by adopting Executive Committee Item 2.5, as amended, at its meeting held on February 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2007;

and

WHEREAS pursuant to § 27-152E(5) of Chapter 27, Council Procedures, of the City of Toronto Municipal Code, Toronto and East York Community Council has the authority to pass a by-law naming the public lanes;

The Toronto and East York Community Council HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The public lane located south of Harbord Street, extending easterly, then northerly, from Major Street, as shown on the sketch attached to this By-law as Attachment No. 1, is named “Louie Laki Lane”.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 9th day of March, A.D. 2010.

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PAM MCCONNELL,  
Chair

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ULLI S. WATKISS  
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

<sup>2</sup> City of Toronto. City of Toronto Bylaws. Retrieved May 25, 2010, from <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/bylaws/2010/law0291.pdf>

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

### PASSING A CITY OF TORONTO BY-LAW CLASS ACTIVITY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of My By-Law: \_\_\_\_\_

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What My By-Law Proposes to Change:

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## PASS IT ON IDEAS

### PASSING A CITY OF TORONTO BY-LAW CLASS ACTIVITY

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2: \_\_\_\_\_

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4: \_\_\_\_\_

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## My REVISED By-Law:

### PASSING A CITY OF TORONTO BY-LAW CLASS ACTIVITY

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**BY- LAW PROPOSAL GROUP PRESENTATION**

**TITLE of BY-LAW:**

<b>Pros</b>	<b>Cons</b>
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**DECISION**

**Pass By-law    Reject By-Law**

**Reasons:** \_\_\_\_\_

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