



**To the Executive Committee, January 28, 2025**

**Re Motion to create a Citizen Advisory Body on Municipal Autonomy and Effective Local Governance. Item number EX 20.13.**

Mayor Olivia Chow deserves better conditions to carry out her job. The interference by the Provincial Government overrides her and City Council too often, and it doesn't benefit Toronto.

It is time for Toronto to manage its own affairs. That is why York Quay Neighbourhood Association (YQNA) supports Councillor Josh Matlow's proposed Citizen Advisory Body on Municipal Autonomy and Effective Local Governance. As a city-sanctioned body it will advise on ways to increase the city's authority over local matters.

These actions would clear the way for a charter agreement with the Provincial Government. This is not an aggressive or unusual move, because the world is full of charter cities: Vancouver, Montreal, Winnipeg, New York City, Berlin, London, Chicago, Los Angeles, Paris and more.

Toronto is a wealthy city, run on an insufficient budget. This situation can only be corrected by legal and legislative changes, giving Toronto the right to raise revenue and decide its own future without interference by changing Provincial Governments.

Most YQNA meetings end up lamenting Doug Ford's interference in Toronto basics, such as zoning, transit, bike lanes and public spaces. We appreciate the Mayor's ability to collaborate with partners of all kinds, but please don't forget the voices and needs of the citizens. We urge you to support Councillor Matlow's proposal.

Sincerely,  
Ulla Colgrass

**YQNA, Planning Committee  
Toronto, Canada**