



RESOLUTION 0005-2012
adopted by the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
at its meeting on January 18, 2012

0005-2012 Moved by: Pat Mullin

Seconded by: Katie Mahoney

Whereas the approval of telecommunication towers ("cell towers") is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government through Industry Canada;

And Whereas the local planning authority is provided with an opportunity to comment on certain cell tower applications but the local planning authority cannot regulate or control the location of such towers through Zoning By-laws or any other planning instruments;

And Whereas the establishment of cell towers is becoming extremely active and is causing a crisis situation in residential areas of the City of Mississauga due to the inadequate process established by Industry Canada;

And Whereas the Minister of Industry and Minister of State (Agriculture), The Honourable Christian Paradis, is aware of the City's concerns and to that end is in receipt of Mayor Hazel McCallion's letter dated January 9, 2012;

And Whereas the current process requires that in some cases the cell tower proponent seek a letter of concurrence from the City of Mississauga for submission to Industry Canada yet the content of that letter is restricted by the fact that Industry Canada will not consider comments about health issues, property values or zoning;

And Whereas the proponent enters into negotiations with the potential host of a cell tower often long before it comes to the City's or citizens' attention which is in part due to the fact that the current notification requirements are not satisfactory and there is no notification required for certain types of applications;

And Whereas the process established by Industry Canada needs to be amended to include, at a minimum: that notification be given to citizens within an specified distance of the proposed cell tower, regardless of the height of the tower; that the notice be given to citizens by registered mail; that the area for notification should be at least 400 feet from the property of the proposed cell tower, which distance is consistent with the City's practice for development applications; that the local Member of Parliament must be notified immediately of any application to establish a cell tower; that the local MP be required to call a public meeting of the citizens who may be or will be affected by the application in order to hear their concern and the results of the public meeting shall be reported back to Industry Canada to take into account in every application;

And Whereas these recommended changes can be made without legislative amendment and are needed immediately given that the current process is flawed and unsatisfactory as it does not allow the City, nor its residents to raise any real concerns about the location, size or design of a cell tower;

Now Therefore the City of Mississauga requests that Industry Canada impose a minimum six month moratorium on the approval of cell towers until such time as Industry Canada improves its process for consultation and shall implement, at a minimum, the changes to its process noted above. A review of the process must take into account the concerns of the community and that as part of the change to the process that Industry Canada encourage proponents to investigate and employ better and less invasive technology and that Industry Canada work with the industry to develop less invasive technology that can be used on existing structures;

Further that the City of Mississauga requests that the local Members of Parliament support this request for a moratorium and work with Industry Canada to have the moratorium implemented and effect immediate and real change in the Industry Canada process.