

January 19, 2001

**Notice of Motion
Toronto City Council
January 30, 2001**

**ESTABLISHING AN ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR THE
TENANT DEFENCE FUND**

WHEREAS City Council, at its meeting on November 23, 24 and 25, 1999, approved the creation of the Tenant Defence Fund for the year 2000 with a maximum budget of \$300,000 to assist tenants in disputing landlords' applications for above-guideline rent increases;

WHEREAS in approving the Tenant Defence Fund, Council allocated \$150,000 of the \$300,000 Tenant Defence Fund to provide direct grants to such tenant groups;

WHEREAS Council allocated the remaining \$150,000 of the Tenant Defence Fund to an Outreach and Organizing Program to contact and assist tenants in organizing themselves to dispute the AGI applications; and

WHEREAS Council enacted By-Law No. 48-2000 on February 3, 2000 to establish the criteria and process for implementing the Tenant Support Grants Program under the Tenant Defence Fund;

WHEREAS Council enacted By-Law No. 838-2000 on October 5, 2000 to expand the scope of the Tenant Support Grants Program to assist tenants appealing or applying to the Divisional Court for judicial review of an order issued by the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal, and tenants disputing landlords' applications for demolitions or conversions before the Ontario Municipal Board; and

WHEREAS the expanded program raised the maximum amount of additional grant assistance to \$10,000 for Divisional Court appeals and judicial reviews and \$15,000 for OMB disputes for each eligible tenant group applying for the grants;

WHEREAS Council, at its meeting on December 5, 6 and 7, 2000 approved that the Tenant Support Grants Program be continued up to February 1, 2001 or until the grants are exhausted, whichever occurs earlier; and

WHEREAS as of January 12, 2001, over 80 tenant applications were approved with approximately \$146,000 committed or disbursed, resulting in only \$4,000 uncommitted funds in the Tenant Support Grants Program; and

WHEREAS there are approximately 60 new landlord applications for above-guideline rent increases at the 3 Toronto area Tribunal offices between December 1, 2000 and January 3, 2001;

WHEREAS unlike other programs funded by the City, this is a one-time program for Year 2000 only that cannot continue until the Year 2001 Budget is approved and therefore in term funding is required;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- (a) additional funds of \$37,500.00 be approved for the Tenant Support Grants Program from the City's Contingency Fund in order to assist eligible tenant groups who apply for the grants between now and March 31, 2001; and
- (b) the Tenant Support Grants Program and the Outreach and Organizing Program be reinstated in 2001 and established as an annual program at a funding level of \$300,000; and
- (c) the Tenant Support Grants Program and the Outreach and Organizing Program and associated budget be included in the 2001 budget considerations; and
- (d) this notice of motion be referred to the Budget Advisory Committee.

Moved by: Councillor Walker
Seconded by: Councillor Pitfield