

Minister of Housing,  
Infrastructure  
and Communities



Ministre du Logement,  
de l'Infrastructure  
et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1P 0B6

Acting Mayor Chris Fonseca

City of Mississauga

Via electronic mail: [mayor@mississauga.ca](mailto:mayor@mississauga.ca) & [chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca](mailto:chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca)

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Acting Mayor Fonseca,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding Mississauga's October 11, 2023 Council meeting. Canada is in a housing crisis, and cities have an important role to play in addressing this crisis by legalizing housing and removing the outdated approaches to zoning that are not keeping pace with the growth of our communities.

Mayors and Councils from across Canada have demonstrated leadership by acting to legalize housing and build more homes faster. Through Housing Accelerator Fund negotiations, cities like London, Calgary, Hamilton, Halifax, Kitchener, and Vaughan have recently made progress to end exclusionary zoning. Other cities like Guelph and Burlington have taken similar measures on their own initiative, demonstrating the level of ambition and forward-looking attitude needed in order to address this challenge.

I was pleased to see the leadership of Councillor Alvin Tedjo in introducing a motion, seconded by Councillor Carolyn Parrish, to legalize the types of housing Mississauga needs if it is to do its part to address the housing supply gap. I was disappointed to learn that this motion was defeated on a tie, and I am concerned that the motion that was passed in its stead does not address the housing crisis with the urgency or scale that this moment requires.

The Housing Accelerator Fund was created to incentivize local governments to implement the structural and lasting reforms that will increase the supply of housing. The cities mentioned above have demonstrated the ambition and initiative that I am looking for. I intend to continue to work with Mayors and City Councils who demonstrate their commitment to addressing our housing supply gap, and I am hopeful this will include Mississauga.

Though you submitted a revised application considering my recommendations, given the defeat of Councillor Tedjo's motion and the arguments made during its deliberation, I am not confident that Mississauga intends to seize this opportunity to fully leverage the federal dollars on offer from the Housing Accelerator Fund. At this time, in the absence of a definitive path forward on ending exclusionary zoning, I am not in a position to approve Mississauga's application.

I continue to work collaboratively with and benefit from the guidance and advice of my colleagues in Mississauga, the Hon. Minister Valdez, and Members of Parliament the Hon. Omar Alghabra, Peter Fonseca, Iqwinder Gaheer, Iqra Khalid, and Charles Sousa. They have continued to express their confidence that Mississauga can and will rise to this moment, and I have no doubt that there are many members of your community who share that view.

I look forward to our ongoing discussions, and to learning more about how Mississauga intends to accelerate the implementation of measures that will address the housing crisis.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

CC: Mississauga City Council