Mayor and Members of Ottawa City Council

Ottawa City Hall

110 Laurier Ave. West

Ottawa K1P 1A1

Dear Mayor and Council:

**Status of City of Ottawa Official Plan Amendment 150**

As you are aware, the Ontario Municipal Board has recently given its decision on appeals regarding City of Ottawa Official Plan Amendment 150 (OPA 150). You will recall that OPA 150 was the result of a comprehensive review of the City’s Official Plan, including revisions to policies governing (among other things) urban design and compatibility, intensification and tall buildings, transit-oriented development, and employment lands. Members of the Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA) participated in this comprehensive review and, while not achieving all of our goals, were largely supportive of the proposed policies contained in OPA 150.

Consequently, we are disappointed to learn of the Ontario Municipal Board’s recent decision regarding OPA 150, in particular delaying important policies governing urban design and compatibility, intensification and tall buildings, and transit-oriented development. These policies have important implications to communities struggling with the pressure of intensification, building heights, and re-development.

We do not think the OMB decision regarding OPA 150 is in the public’s interest, particularly as it delays implementation of the uncontested parts of OPA 150 (as well as OPA 140 and 141, also implicated by this OMB decision) and disrupts the cycle of Official Plan reviews by City Council. As well, we believe there are other serious deficiencies in the OMB’s decision that deserve judicial review.

Therefore, the FCA Executive, on behalf of its member associations, requests that City Council take all reasonable steps, including seeking judicial review, of the OMB decision regarding OPA 150, so that policies important to the growth of our city and the preservation of our residential communities (as envisaged in OPA 150) can come into force expeditiously.

Yours truly,

Gary Sealey

President, FCA

cc City Clerk