

November 21, 2018

Mr. Adam Vaughan  
Member of Parliament  
Spadina – Fort York  
Toronto, Ontario

*Sent via Email*

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

PortsToronto followed with interest your meeting held November 17, 2018, regarding the federal government's Ports Modernization Review. Given that there is a public process underway regarding Canadian ports, we believe it is important that information being shared is accurate and factual. Specific to your comments regarding the governance of PortsToronto, I would like to correct some of the comments you made in the spirit of ensuring accurate and fair dialogue and discussion.

In the meeting, which was recorded and posted online, you claim at various points throughout that "they (i.e. the Port Authority) nominate a list of candidates" and "effectively the Board appoints itself by canvassing through its own system which is not public." These statements are inaccurate and misleading and a discredit to the very process in which your government has been involved. In fact, 50 per cent of our Board has been appointed since the current government was elected in 2015.

As you are aware, six members of our Board are appointed through a User Group Nomination Process as mandated in our Letters Patent. There are four User Groups: CLASS 1: Port Related Activities/Operators; CLASS 2: Airport; CLASS 3: Commercial Users; and CLASS 4: Recreational Business Activities. In order to ensure a factual and accurate understanding of the User Group process we thought that the following summary of the typical User Group process would be beneficial.

Typically the User Group process is conducted as follows:

1. The available Board appointments are promoted publicly through the PortsToronto website and social media; advertisements are taken out in national newspapers in both official languages; and the vacancies are posted to external websites such as the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) website. For the User Group processes run in late 2017 this resulted in more than 80 applications being received.
2. All applicant responses are provided to the User Group members for their consideration.
3. Applicant responses are vetted by the User Groups and a list of candidates to be interviewed is established by the User Group members.
4. Interviews are conducted by the User Group members and a list of candidates is put forward by the User Group for consideration by the federal Minister of Transport.

60 Harbour Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 1B7  
Tel/Tél: 416.863.2000 | PortsToronto.com

PortsToronto owns and operates | PortsToronto possède et exploite :

5. At the time that the User Group submits its list of candidates the Minister is provided with the application package submitted by all of the applicants so that the Minister has a full list of all applicants for his consideration.
6. The appointment of the new Board member is made by the Minister of Transport.

In this typical User Group process PortsToronto's role is limited to (a) assessing our Board skills matrix to identify skills gaps and informing the User Group of such skills gaps; and (b) facilitating and providing administrative support to the User Groups (e.g. placing advertisements, accepting applications and distributing all applications to User Group members, compiling package of all candidate applications and sending to the Minister for consideration).

At the meeting you also indicated that "Port user groups are effectively industrial." This is also incorrect and clearly doesn't consider groups such as retailers, hotel operators, tour boat operators, cultural institutions and training schools who are represented in our User Groups.

I would also like to take this opportunity to assure you that many of the concerns voiced at the meeting you held on Saturday are being addressed by PortsToronto and will be referenced in our submission to the Ports Modernization Review. In the submission PortsToronto addresses the important role of the Port of Toronto, the regular public consultation undertaken, as well as our sustainability efforts and community investment.

As always, I am available to discuss any matters pertaining to our business in an effort to ensure accurate and fair dialogue within the community.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Wilson  
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.  
Port Modernization Review c/o tc.portsreview-examendesports.tc@tc.gc.ca