

House of Commons Chambre des communes CANADA

## Ottawa

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## Constituency

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Peter Jouseca Member of Parliament Mississauga East-Cooksville

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May 11, 2023

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Minister Champagne,

## Subject: Proposed Telecommunications Tower: C7461 and TT 23-1 W3

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the aforementioned subject with me. Through my conversations with constituents in the area, it has become clear that there are concerns about the potential negative impact that the proposed telecommunications tower may have on our community.

After hearing from these residents, I strongly oppose the installation of this tower. While I recognize the importance of telecommunications infrastructure for the development and technological advancement of our community, long-time residents who have lived here for decades have raised valid concerns that have not yet been sufficiently addressed during the consultation process.

The City of Mississauga has informed our concerned residents that, as stated in the notification Telecommunication antenna/tower systems are exclusively regulated by Federal legislation under the Radiocommunication Act and administered by Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada. Therefore, Provincial legislation such as the Planning Act, including zoning by-laws, does not apply to these antenna/tower systems. And that, it is important to understand that ISED Canada, while requiring proponents to follow the City of Mississauga's Telecommunication Antenna/Tower Siting Protocol, makes the final decision on whether or not an antenna/tower system can be constructed. Residents have also been informed that the City of Mississauga can only provide comments to ISED Canada and does not have the authority to stop the construction of an antenna/tower system.

The primary concern voiced by nearly all residents was whether alternative locations were given any consideration for the installation of the telecommunications tower.

Few residents brought it to my attention that they reviewed the City of Mississauga's Protocol for Telecommunications Antenna/Tower Siting, and noted that:

- Section 6.1 indicates: Co-location on an existing antenna system is the preferred option instead of constructing new antenna system within the City.
  - To reiterate the primary concern raised, residents are not aware of any other potential locations or co-locations being considered and proposed.

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- Section 6.2 indicates: Where a new antenna system must be constructed, the following locations are preferred: a) Areas that maximize the distance from residential areas; and b) Business employment, industrial and utility areas.
  - The proposed Telecommunications Tower is in fact planned to be installed in a local plaza with heavy traffic and located in the midst of a densely populated residential neighbourhood.
- Section 6.4 indicates: Where a new antenna system must be constructed, the following location guidelines should be followed: a) Locate antenna systems away from street line to minimize visual impact of the tower from the streetscape; c) Avoid locating antenna systems on parking and/or loading spaces as it may cause a non-compliance situation for a property with the zoning by-law and/or impact future development for the site
  - $\circ\,$  As mentioned above, many residents are not clear if the proposed location met all requirements to begin with.

Several residents expressed their dissatisfaction and found it disrespectful that a Canadian flag was utilized to promote a business proposal of this nature.

Many residents shared concerns about the health and safety implications, particularly for family members who are already unwell.

I also received feedback regarding concerns about the potential impact of this installation on property values and the visual aesthetics of the neighbourhood.

I inquired whether residents experience any mobile or internet service disruptions, and every resident I spoke with indicated that they have a satisfactory level of service.

After considering all of the concerns raised, I am not convinced that the proposed location is suitable for the installation of the telecommunications tower.

As an elected representative responsible for advocating on behalf of my constituents, I believe it is my duty to bring to your attention the significant concerns that have been raised by my residents.

Once again, I stand with my constituents and strongly oppose the installation of the telecommunications tower at this location. I urge you to take all necessary measures to help cancel this proposal.

Sincerely,

Peter Fonseca

**Peter Fonseca** Member of Parliament Mississauga East-Cooksville



CC: City of Mississauga Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)