To: Chair and Members, Committee of the Whole - City of London  
From: The member organizations represented by the Keep London Growing Coalition  
Date: May 8, 2009  
Re: Governance Committee Recommendations  

Dear Chair and Members:  

On behalf of the Keep London Growing Coalition, please accept this written submission for your public meeting, scheduled for May 14, 2009. The following articulates our position, and the position of our supporters, on the proposed governance structure for the City of London.

The Keep London Growing Coalition represents more than 50,000 taxpayers in the City of London - construction workers, labour unions, contractors, home builders, business owners, land developers, realtors, property managers, manufacturers, suppliers, their employees and their families. The KLGC represents business and labour in London.

We support the continuation of the current 19-member City Council that includes the Mayor, 14 Ward Councillors and 4 members of Board of Control for two reasons:

- Any change to the current structure will not result in any cost savings.
- Any change in the current structure will eliminate the ability voters currently have to elect, city-wide, four members of council on the most important committee.

While we certainly support community input and assistance, we do not support the more formal use of Community Councils or any other unelected structure that would allow councilors to abdicate their responsibilities to others or allow other groups to conduct the business of the City.

To ensure all Londoners have the equal opportunity to dedicate their time to public service, we do not support the mandate of full-time councilors.

In the interests of democracy and transparency, committee meetings should continue to be held in the late afternoon or evening to ensure involvement and access of those who have full- or part-time jobs.

The Coalition is willing and interested in continuing to be involved in the process of revising London's governance. We would like to continue to be involved in monitoring, assisting and advising Council on behalf of our Coalition membership of more than 50,000 taxpayers and their families in London.

Most sincerely,

Jim MacKinnon,  
Keep London Growing Coalition  

Coalition Supporters:

www.keeplondongrowing.ca