FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor Sendzik forms working group to review residential rental licencing

April 24, 2018 – A new Mayor's working group is being formed to look at the residential rental licencing by-law proposed for the city.

Mayor Walter Sendzik announced the formation of a new working group at Monday night's council meeting in response to the public feedback and comments received at the April 17 Draft Rental Housing Licencing By-Law open house.

"Staff and Council have received a lot of valuable input from many different stakeholders on this issue and we hear your concerns. We want to make sure that we are getting this right and find made-in-St. Catharines solutions to the housing issues our city is facing."

The Mayor also made it clear that more time is needed and the original timeline for Council to consider a by-law by June will not proceed.

The working group will include landlords and tenants, the real estate industry, community housing agencies and Brock University. The working group will begin meeting with City staff in early May to discuss potential solutions and prepare recommendations for Council to consider in the fall. The working group will consider the feedback received to date and look at solutions other communities have adopted to regulate rental housing. Stakeholders interested in participating in the working group should email their ideas and interest to mayor@stcatharines.ca by Tuesday May 1.

"To the landlords, tenants and community: we hear you, and we want to work together in a collaborative manner to ensure that St. Catharines stock of rental housing is safe, decent, and remains affordable for all tenants. Housing is one of the most critical issues facing our city and we will make sure we get it right."

For more information visit www.stcatharines.ca/RentalByLaw

-30-

Contact:
Office of Mayor Walter Sendzik
City of St. Catharines
905-688-5601 ext. 1540 (office)