

GTA REALTORS® host Ford and Smitherman at TREB AGM

TORONTO, October 19, 2010 -- Just four days before voters make their decision as to the city's new leadership, Greater Toronto REALTORS® will hear from mayoral candidates Rob Ford and George Smitherman at the Toronto Real Estate Board's Annual General Meeting.

The meeting will feature AM640 Radio's John Oakley in conversation with each of the candidates as they individually discuss REALTOR® and City Hall issues.

"Given that TREB hosted the first major debate with the original six hopefuls in May, it is fitting that the two frontrunners return to share their proposed policies with Greater Toronto REALTORS®," said Toronto Real Estate Board President Bill Johnston.

Recent polls indicate that Mr. Ford and Mr. Smitherman are within a few percentage points of each other with respect to voter support.

While TREB has not formally endorsed any candidates Greater Toronto REALTORS® will be interested to hear the views of Mr. Ford and Mr. Smitherman on a number of issues that affect the city's buying, selling and leasing public.

"City policies that concern real estate affect every Torontonian because the sector is such a key component of our economic engine," said Mr. Johnston.

Greater Toronto REALTORS® have advocated their clients' perspectives' on a number of issues including the Toronto Land Transfer Tax, which Mr. Ford has committed to repeal if his bid for office is successful.

A public opinion poll conducted earlier this year by Environics Research Group for the Toronto Real Estate Board showed 60 per cent of Torontonians oppose the Toronto Land Transfer Tax, 31 per cent supported it and eight per cent had no opinion.

"Regardless of the outcome of this election, we hope that it will serve as an opportunity to open new dialogue with the City of Toronto's elected leadership so that the home buying, selling and leasing public are given due consideration in all of the City's policy decisions."

TREB Annual General Meeting takes place at the Toronto Congress Centre October 21st at from 10am to 12pm with the mayoral candidates scheduled from 11 am to 12 noon.

Greater Toronto REALTORS® are passionate about their work. They adhere to a strict Code of Ethics and share a state-of-the-art Multiple Listing Service. Serving over 30,000 Members in the Greater Toronto Area, the Toronto Real Estate Board is Canada's largest real estate board. Greater Toronto Area open house listings are now available on www.TorontoRealEstateBoard.com.

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