Steps to Stopping a Cell Tower

As soon as you find out about a proposed cell tower in your neighbourhood, do the following:

1. Build a small team (6) neighbours who will be the core team working on this
	1. Educate yourselves about the health risks as quickly as possible.
	2. meet within one week of the notice of the public information session and plan the details for the following steps:
		1. Set up a town hall meeting to inform the community of the proposed tower within 2 weeks of the information session.
		2. Put together a town hall flyer and go door to door to target as many homes as is feasible within a 500 m radius of the proposed tower. Bring the hard copy petition with you in case you see someone in person. Link to a sample flyer.
		3. Use [www.c4st.org](http://www.c4st.org) for helpful materials.
2. Create awareness and involvement in your community
	1. Inform as many of your neighbours as possible. Go door to door, call them and leave them a note to call you and send a letter to the editor of your local paper stating that you and your neighbours have health concerns and urge the public to attend or to contact you to discuss
	2. Attend the information session and encourage all of your neighbours to attend as well. Ask questions. Follow their deadline and write your reply asking more questions and requesting a response.
	3. Start an online petition through gopetition.com or similar website. Tell all of your neighbours to sign the petition. Have a hard copy petition with you at all times so you can get signatures for those who don’t have time to go on line.
	4. If you live in a high traffic area, get lawn signs made and put them on your property (not on city property though). Put the web link of the petition on the sign
	5. If you have a community member who is technically savvy, start your own website. Here are some samples: <http://mybronte.ca/wp/>, [www.stopthistower.org/](http://www.stopthistower.org/)
	6. At the town hall meeting, have lawn signs ready for distribution. Hand out an information flyer (link to sample flyer). Have a hard copy of the petition available and encourage signatures. Look for others who may be interested in helping out with distributing flyers, etc.
	7. Protests are likely, arrange for signs to be printed. A minimum of 20 signs is recommended.
3. Notify local authorities: MP, Mayor and Council members
	1. write to your MP expressing your concerns about the proposed tower (ND. Link to sample letter).
	2. write to your local Councilor and Mayor expressing your concerns about the proposed tower (ND. Link to sample letter).
	3. Look for alternate sites that are not in residential communities (if feasible) (e.g., Go Station, field, etc.)
4. Communicate with the landowner
	1. If the landowner is a known individual, approach the landowner verbally to express the community concerns (phone or in person are best). Begin your approach assuming that the landowner in no way wants to upset, offend or harm his/her neighbours. Chances are this individual was told this installation was perfectly safe and legal. Have information package ready for landowner that outlines 1) health risks; 2) insurance liability; 3) reduced property values ; 4) tax implications (especially if it’s a church re charitable status) so that he can investigate himself/herself.
	2. If the landowner is non-responsive to the personal touch, write to him/her expressing your concerns requesting that you have a meeting (Link to sample)
	3. If the landowner continues to be non-responsive, write a final letter indicating that you plan to hold protests outside of the proposed site until you receive a meeting.
	4. If the landowner doesn’t respond, hand out flyers within the neighbourhood indicating the date and time of the planned protest. Continue this weekly until the landowner responds.
	5. Once the landowner agrees to a meeting, have 2 or 3 of the core group attend. The goal is to get the landowner to change his/her mind about putting up the tower. Concerns will be raised about financial implications of breaking the lease but these can be addressed. Bring printouts of online petitions, hard copy petitions, health information and any other information that may be relevant
	6. Look for alternate sites that are not in residential communities (if feasible) (e.g., Go Station, field, etc.)