

An open letter to all federal party leaders from the Mayor of Mississauga, Bonnie Crombie

Mississauga Matters!

As the 6th largest city in Canada with a population approaching 800,000, Mississauga is quickly becoming a city in demand. At the same time, we continue to face growing challenges and pressures to deliver services to our residents, the same people we all serve.

Mississauga needs a committed federal government partner to provide consistent, predictable, direct and long-term funding and the legislative authority to allow us to build Mississauga into a world-class city.

In Mississauga, we deliver over 300 services, from snow removal and leaf pick-up; to libraries and community centre programming; to road maintenance and transit service; to fire and emergency services. As a City, we can only collect property taxes and user fees to deliver the services residents expect. We are the closest to the people and see first-hand the effects of funding decisions made by other levels of government.

We cannot cut our way to prosperity.

That is why Mississauga needs the federal government to partner with us to make investments to build more housing that is affordable for middle-income residents so people can live and work in Mississauga.

We need the federal government to continue to make permanent, direct and allocationbased investments in our local infrastructure to help us build community centres, roads, bridges, parks, trails, bike lanes and everything else that makes Mississauga a great place to live. This is the most efficient way for cities like Mississauga to build infrastructure in a timely fashion.

Mississauga needs a federal partner to make significant investments in our local and regional transit systems, like all-day, two way GO Transit on all Mississauga GO corridors and the Downtown Mississauga Terminal and Transitway Connection - to allow us to break gridlock and congestion, and get people and businesses moving.

Over the last 4 years, the relationship between the federal and municipal governments in Canada has been strengthened. We have had a seat at the Federal-Provincial and Territorial meetings on infrastructure and more direct funding has come to municipalities. We look forward to seeing this level of engagement and momentum continue in the future with the party that forms the next government.

Attached is a questionnaire. I would appreciate you taking the time to answer questions about how you would work with Mississauga, should you and your party form government on October 21.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Chombrie

Bonnie Crombie Mayor, City of Mississauga

The City of Mississauga seeks responses to the following questions that align with Mississauga's priority issues. Please answer the following three questions in no more than 250 words per question. Answers will be posted publicly at <u>www.mississaugamatters.org</u>

I. Connected, Seamless, Rapid Public Transit

- Will you and your party commit to maintain and enhance the investments in transit in Mississauga?
- Will you provide direct funding on an allocation basis to Mississauga to build local and rapid transit in our City?

II. Sustainable Infrastructure

- Do you and your party commit to developing long-term, predictable, and sustainable funding programs from the federal government to specifically fund the building and maintenance of municipal infrastructure?
- Will you commit to providing permanent, direct funding to municipalities, similar to the one-time doubling of the Federal Gas Tax.

III. Affordable, Middle-Class Housing

• Do you and your party commit to a National Housing Strategy and to maintaining and enhancing the \$40 billion commitment to build affordable housing across Canada, including in Mississauga?

IV. Strengthening the Federal-Municipal relationship

• Do you and your party commit to working with the City of Mississauga and other municipalities on a new funding framework for municipalities that includes permanent and direct funding?