Biography - Gary Kent

Gary Kent has worked for the City of Mississauga in various capacities in four of the five departments that make up the Corporation. His contributions have been as a Management Consultant and then as a manager within Mississauga Transit and Community Services in business development and business planning roles. Since 2004, Gary has reported to the City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer as the Director of City Strategy and Innovation and also acted as Director of Finance during a period when the organization was recruiting.

As Director of City Strategy and Innovation, he was responsible for supporting Council, the City Manager and the Leadership Team in developing and implementing the strategic vision of the City and Corporation, by working with Members of Council and senior leaders, to ensure clarity, collaboration and effectiveness of execution. In addition, he was responsible for promoting, assessing and implementing continuous improvement initiatives. Functional areas included: the Project Management Support Office; Corporate Business Planning; Business Improvement; Strategic Community Initiatives; Innovation and Executive support sections.

Gary has been involved in many interesting activities with the City during his career including developing the Corporate Business Plan and co-chairing the development of the City's Strategic Plan which engaged 100,000 citizens and was approved by Council in April, 2009. Current projects include: Inspiration Lakeview and Port Credit; implementation of the Downtown Master Plan; and Sheridan College Phase II.

Prior to landing in Canada in 1995, Gary worked as the Finance Manager for a large private sector transit organization and experienced deregulation, privatization, public listings and mergers in that industry. He graduated from Caledonian University in 1987 with a BA in Accountancy, has been involved in several community volunteer roles and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Research Innovation Commercialization Centre. Gary was involved in coaching hockey and soccer in Canada for many years and has lived with his family in Mississauga all his Canadian life.