

MAYOR'S update



A Personal Message from Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie

The 2016 Budget is a solid financial plan for our thriving community that paves the way for Mississauga's promising future. We heard from residents about their funding priorities, and together, we put forward a fiscally-responsible plan that invests in local priorities including building infrastructure, expanding public transit and delivering quality services.

To achieve our Budget 2016 investment goals, the overall impact is a 1.6% increase to the property taxpayer; 1.0% represents delivering Mississauga services; and 0.6% represents the Region of Peel.

We have built continuous improvement processes like Lean into our corporate DNA. For 2016, nearly \$5 million in savings from across different departments were found. These savings are equivalent to reducing the local tax rate by 1.1%.

Mississauga continues to maintain its strong financial reputation with our Triple-A Credit Rating. This gives job-creators the confidence to grow, expand, and succeed here at home. It further allows us to leverage the work we are undertaking to attract new foreign-direct investments with the Mississauga International Partnership Program Committee (MIPP).

Council also voted to invest \$10 million toward developing the University of Toronto Mississauga's (UTM) Innovation Complex. UTM injects over \$1.3 billion annually into Peel Region. Investing in education is city-building.

Finally, Budget 2016 ensures important neighbourhood investments are completed including the redevelopment of Meadowvale Library, opening three new Mississauga Transitway Stations, and increasing fire prevention services, among many other highlights.

As we move forward with Budget 2016, I also want to thank residents for taking part in our City-wide engagement efforts. Last November, the City of Mississauga hosted its first ever Telephone-Town Hall. In total, 11,641 residents

called in and joined us. We heard tremendous feedback, and were better able to understand resident priorities.

For those who were unable to ask a question or be part of the discussion, our conversation did not end there. Residents were encouraged to email their questions or comments to a dedicated email account: budget@mississauga.ca.

We had a Budget Allocator - an online tool which allows people to more thoroughly identify their budget priorities. Residents were also encouraged to attend Council and Budget Committee meetings in person. Meetings were broadcasted live.

I have joined Councillors and held one-on-one Community Office Hours throughout Mississauga, engaging residents about what matters most to them.

Once again, Budget 2016 is a solid financial blueprint that will deliver real, important and lasting results for Mississauga residents and businesses.

Warmest Regards,

**Bonnie Crombie, MBA, ICD.D.
Mayor of Mississauga**

Moving Forward with the Hurontario LRT:

In April 2015, the Provincial government announced that the Hurontario Light Rail Transit (LRT) would receive full funding now amounting to \$1.4 billion dollars – the largest infrastructure investment in Mississauga’s history.

Mississauga has already funded \$15.4 million toward planning studies, an environmental assessment and preliminary design work. Our 2015-2024 capital plan includes a total of \$25 million for project enhancements.

The Hurontario LRT will result in a more seamless travel experience for students to get to class at Sheridan College; enjoy a community festival at Celebration Square; take in a memorable performance at the Living Arts Centre; and shop for premium brands in the downtown. The Hurontario LRT will also be connected to Mississauga’s MiWay Bus Rapid Transit System.



The LRT will connect GO Train Stations from Port Credit to Cooksville. It will run through City Centre and unleash the potential of our downtown core, allowing us to more aggressively get on with our Downtown 21 plan.

Maintaining Triple-A Credit Rating, Attracting and Retaining Foreign-Direct Investment

The City of Mississauga’s commitment to finding savings, showing discipline with taxpayers’ money, and strategically investing to help our city grow, have also ensured Mississauga maintains its Triple-A credit rating.

What does that mean and why is it important for our local economy? A Triple-A credit rating means Mississauga enjoys a strong financial reputation. It gives businesses and entrepreneurs – from across Canada and around the world – the confidence to invest, expand service offerings create jobs and achieve success right here in Mississauga.

Mississauga’s Triple-A credit rating is an important part of the message shared during City of Mississauga Economic Development Office Investment Missions. We recently led missions including the City’s participation at the 2016 BIO International Convention – the largest life-sciences conference in the world.

Mississauga is the second largest life sciences cluster in Canada by employment. Our pharmaceutical business community is a thriving hub of global life science businesses. We are currently home to more than 380 life science companies that employ more than 25,000 people.

Stormwater Infrastructure Crucial to City-Building:



The City of Mississauga’s stormwater charge is applied effective January 1, 2016. The charge appears on the Region of Peel water bills for Mississauga starting with your March 2016 water bill.

The total annual stormwater charge for a property will be calculated as a daily rate. Each bill shows the stormwater charge for the number of days that have passed since the last bill.

The stormwater charge is a dedicated source of funding that directly supports the City of Mississauga’s stormwater management program. It will help reduce potential risks to you, your property and the environment. The funds cannot be used for other services and programs as stated in the Stormwater Fees and Charges By-law.

Visit the stormwater charge site mississauga.ca/portal/stormwater, to find your stormwater charge estimate and to learn more about the City’s stormwater management program.
