



MINUTES

BUDGET COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 –
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1
www.mississauga.ca**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Hazel McCallion	(CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey	Ward 1
Councillor Chris Fonseca	Ward 3
Councillor Bonnie Crombie	Ward 5
Councillor Ron Starr	Ward 6
Councillor Nando Iannicca	Ward 7
Councillor Katie Mahoney	Ward 8
Councillor Pat Saito	Ward 9
Councillor Sue McFadden	Ward 10
Councillor George Carlson	Ward 11

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councillor Pat Mullin	Ward 2
Councillor Frank Dale	Ward 4 (Other Municipal Business)

STAFF PRESENT:

Janice Baker, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer
Mary Ellen Bench, City Solicitor
Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services
Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works
Ed Sajecki, Commissioner, Planning and Building
Patti Elliott-Spencer, Director, Finance
Crystal Greer, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk
Geoff Marinoff, Director, Transit

CONTACT PERSON: Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk, Telephone: 905-615-3200, ext. 5471; Fax: 905-615-4181
Julie.Lavertu@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDER – 1:07 p.m.

DECLARATIONS OF (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (Councillor C. Fonseca)

DEPUTATIONS

- A. Item 1 John Nunziata, LL.B., Barrister & Solicitor, with respect to the MiWay 2014 fare strategy.

Mr. Nunziata made a deputation on behalf of his client, Career Colleges Ontario (formerly known as the Ontario Association of Career Colleges). He discussed the number and growth of career colleges in the City of Mississauga and Ontario, the number of students who attend career colleges in the City and Ontario, the funding of career colleges, career college students and their average age, socio-economic, family, and educational backgrounds, and their reasons for attending career colleges, the various ways in which career college students fund their studies, career colleges and their history, programs, courses, operation, and overall regulation by the Ontario government.

Mr. Nunziata said that he was pleased that the Corporate Report is recommending that career college students be included in the post-secondary fare category, noting that the City of Toronto extended this discount to career college students a few years ago. He suggested that the Committee consider accelerating the proposed implementation date of May 1, 2014 for including private career college students in the post-secondary fare category so that these students can benefit from lower fares as soon as possible. Mr. Nunziata expressed concern about the recommendation in the Corporate Report to end fare pricing for post-secondary students and transition them to adult fares by 2017 and discussed reasons why post-secondary student fares should continue to be subsidized.

Committee members raised various issues including:

- The need to ensure that career colleges confirm the eligibility of their students for the post-secondary transit fare category and whether career college students could use their student cards as a proof of enrollment in their respective colleges;
- The value of career colleges and their programs to the City and broader economy;
- The importance of elected officials attending graduation ceremonies at various career colleges in the City in order to support these students and their families;
- The recommendation in the Corporate Report to gradually increase post-secondary fare pricing, over a four-year period, to equal adult fares by 2017 and associated challenges for many students being faced with high tuition rates;

- Post-secondary fare pricing practices in other Ontario municipalities;
- The feasibility of implementing a Universal Transit Pass (UPass) for career college students similar to that of University of Toronto Mississauga students;
- PRESTO cards and their use in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and the value of aligning the City's transit fares with transit providers in the GTA in the future;
- The number of career college students who are currently, and could potentially be, using MiWay, specifically, and public transit, generally;
- Career college students and their average age, socio-economic, family, and educational backgrounds, and overall challenges versus other students; and
- The possibility of accelerating the proposed implementation date of May 1, 2014 for including private career colleges in the post-secondary fare category.

Mr. Nunziata, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Marinoff responded to the Committee's above-noted comments and questions. In response to a question, Mr. Nunziata discussed the feasibility of implementing a UPass for career college students and said that it would be difficult due to the large number, size, and location of career colleges in the City. Mr. Marinoff explained the rationale for the proposed implementation date of May 1, 2014 for including private career colleges in the post-secondary fare category and indicated that staff could look at advancing the proposed implementation date by a few months.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. MiWay 2014 Fare Strategy

Corporate Report dated September 4, 2013 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to the MiWay 2014 fare strategy.

Approved (Councillor N. Iannicca)
Recommendation BC-0004-2013

CLOSED SESSION – Nil

ADJOURNMENT – 1:34 p.m. (Councillor B. Crombie)

REPORT 2-2013

TO: MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Budget Committee presents its second report for 2013 and recommends:

BC-0004-2013

1. That the proposed transit fare changes outlined in Appendix 1 of the Corporate Report dated September 4, 2013 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled “MiWay 2014 Fare Strategy” be implemented effective January 27, 2014;
2. That the post-secondary student fare be available exclusively through the Presto fare card beginning on January 27, 2014;
3. That the adult weekly pass be discontinued effective January 27, 2014;
4. That the student fare category be limited to only include high school students and that both student and child fares remain frozen at the current rate until 2015;
5. That a new fare category for post-secondary students be introduced beginning May 1, 2014 and that pricing be phased in over four years until 2017 when fare pricing for this category will equal adult fares;
6. That private career colleges be included as a part of the post-secondary fare category effective May 1, 2014; and
7. That a by-law be enacted to establish the proposed 2014 Mississauga Transit fares and related charges as set out in Appendix 1 of the Corporate Report dated September 4, 2013 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled “MiWay 2014 Fare Strategy” and that Mississauga Transit Fares By-law 242-12 be repealed.