



## MINUTES

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### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA  
([www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca))

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015 – 12:35 PM**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE**

**300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1**

Members Present	Councillor Pat Saito, Ward 9 <b>(Chair)</b> Councillor Karen Ras, Ward 2 <b>(Vice-Chair)</b> Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 5 Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 Sandy Milakovich, Citizen Member
Members Absent	Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1 Mayor Bonnie Crombie (Ex-officio) John Magill, Citizen Member
Non-members Present	Councillor Chris Fonseca, Ward 3
Staff Present	Janice Baker, City Manager and CAO Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer Mary Ellen Bench, City Solicitor Ivana Di Millo, Director, Communications Karen Spencer, Advisor Diana Rusnov, Manager, Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER** – 12:35 PM**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Approved (Councillor Parrish)

**DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**- Nil**DEPUTATIONS** – Nil**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD** – Nil

(Persons who wish to address the Governance Committee about a matter on the Agenda.)

**MATTERS CONSIDERED**1. *Municipal Elections Act Review*

Members of committee expressed disappointment with the deadline date of July 27, 2015 as it does not give enough time for research and to provide meaningful input on the *Municipal Elections Act*.

Councillor Parrish suggested that all members of Council be surveyed on the topics of concern for the Municipal Elections Act and discuss it at the next Council meeting. Councillor Saito enquired about including this matter on the July 8<sup>th</sup> Special Council agenda. Crystal Greer, City Clerk noted that it could be included on the agenda providing the appropriate notice is given as per the Procedure By-law. Janice Baker, City Manager noted that the document could be formulated into a questionnaire and circulated to members of Council to provide their responses.

Councillor Ras suggested that the candidates from the last election provide input. Discussion ensued with respect to the matter and Ms. Greer noted that staff could prepare communication to the candidates to bring the matter to their attention and direct them to the Province. Councillor Ras further suggested that it be noted that given the timelines there was no opportunity to include input beyond the municipality and the current elected officials.

In response to questions from Sandy Milakovic regarding third party advertising and campaign finances, Councillor Parrish explained that there are situations where third party advertising may advertise issues that are taken out of context. Ms. Greer explained that legislation holds the candidate accountable for their campaign financing and financial statements.

Members of Committee further discussed elements of consultation for proposed changes to the *Municipal Elections Act* and raised the following issues:

#### Campaign Finance

- The calculated amount that a candidate can spend should be based on per resident instead of electors.
- There should be a percentage cap on what a candidate can spend post-election.

#### Third Party Advertising

- There should be rules governing third party advertising for each municipality that establishes a total limit and determines if a candidate has to claim the third party advertising as a donation.
- There needs to be transparency to clarify that a candidate does not have third party advertising.
- Define what is third party advertising.

#### Accessibility

- There should be a statement that the City supports accessibility for everyone as covered by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

#### Enforcement

- The Province should review whether there are other parts of an election campaign that should be enforced and the possibility of the Provincial Elections Office being responsible for investigating municipal elections complaints or issues.

#### Ranked Ballots

- Should be noted that the City is interested in hearing more about ranked ballots.
- There needs to be some thought by the Province on how to manage potential confusion if adjacent municipalities choose to use different systems.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Clerk's staff summarize the Governance Committee feedback on the *Municipal Elections Act* consultation and survey other members of Council for additional comments and report back to Council.

Approved (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation GOV-0018-2015

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Parrish spoke to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC) and explained that there should be a change to the Committee's Terms of Reference to not allow PVAC members to have substitutes and to standardize it with the other advisory committees of Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Terms of Reference for the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee be amended to not permit voting members who are unable to attend a meeting to appoint a designate to attend a meeting in their place, as per the usual practice for all committees of Council.

Approved (Councillor Parrish)

Recommendation GOV-0019-2015

**ADJOURNMENT** - 1:30 PM