

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Budget Committee

Meeting No. 8

Tuesday, February 23, 1999.

The Budget Committee met on Tuesday, February 23, 1999, in Committee Room 2, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 2:14 p.m.

Attendance

Members were present for some or all of the time period indicated.

	2:14 p.m. to 4:36 p.m.	4:55 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	6:05 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.
Councillor Tom Jakobek, Chair	X	X	X
Councillor Bas Balkissoon	X	X	X
Councillor Olivia Chow	X	X	X
Councillor Blake Kinahan	X	X	X
Councillor Case Ootes	X	X	X
Councillor Jane Pitfield	X	X	X
Councillor David Shiner	X	X	X

Also Present:

Councillor Sandra Bussin			
Councillor Raymond Cho			
Councillor Norman Gardner			
Councillor Mario Giansante			
Councillor Joan King			
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski			
Councillor George Mammoliti			
Councillor Pam McConnell			
Councillor Mike Tzekas			

**8.1 1999 Operating Budget
Preliminary Budget Committee Review**

The Budget Committee continued its preliminary review of the Operating Budget and directed that its recommendations be forwarded to all Standing Committees and Community Councils for review and comments, to report back to the Budget Committee, prior to the commencement of the 'wrap-up' meetings on April 6, 1999.

(Standing Committees and Community Councils - March 5, 1999)

Economic Development, Culture and Tourism

Mr. Joe Halstead, Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, gave an overview presentation of the overall 1999 Operating Budget for the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Department and answered Members' questions in that regard.

Parks and Recreation

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for the Parks and Recreation Division.

Ms. Claire Tucker-Reid, General Manager, Parks and Recreation Division, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Chow moved:
 - (i) that Option 'B' be considered as the preferred option for the harmonization of user fees for recreation purposes and requested the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to report back to Budget Committee on the following matters related to Option 'B':
 - (a) the costs and benefits of providing the 'adult drop-in program' free of charge so as to facilitate family uses of recreation centres; and

- (b) how the additional costs of Option 'B' will be offset by the Budget Committee's recommended reductions/revenues (\$950,000.00 net) from the review, together with the results of a staff review of golf and ferry fees;
- (ii) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism and the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services consider buying receptacles in bulk thus resulting in savings to the City, and report back on the implications of advertising on receptacles; and
- (iii) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to meet with the General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission to discuss the possibility of offering an incentive to those going to the Island by public transit by offering a discount on the ferry ride to the Island, and report back to the Budget Committee in that regard.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Pitfield Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- B. Councillor Jakobek moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on the financial implications of implementing Option 'B' in 1999.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

- C. Councillor Shiner moved:
 - (i) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on the additional costs of accommodating a likely increase in the demand for programs relating to Option 'B'; and
 - (ii) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to ensure that the contract for advertising on receptacles is awarded based on tendering.

(Carried)

- D. Councillor Kinahan moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on the cost and other implications of phasing-in Option 'B' over a three-year period.

(Carried)

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture & Tourism; c. General Manager, Parks and Recreation Division - March 9, 1999)

Customer and Business Support

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for the Customer and Business Support Division.

Mr. Glenn Vollebregt, Director, Legislative Services, City Clerk's Department (formerly Director, Administration and Support Services Division, of the Economic Development Department) and Mr. Frank Kershaw, Director, Policy and Development Division, answered Members' questions.

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Pitfield Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

Councillor Jakobek moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee providing additional savings with regard to the subject budget the said savings to be approximately \$300,000.00.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture & Tourism; c. Director, Administration and Support Services Division - March 9, 1999)

Arena Boards of Management

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for Arena Boards of Management.

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Pitfield Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

Councillor Jakobek moved that the City Auditor be requested to review the revenues and expenditures of those arenas with large deficits, and report back to Budget Committee with recommendations on how those deficits can be reduced.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism - March 9, 1999)

Economic Development

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for the Economic Development Division.

Ms. Brenda Librecz, Managing Director, Economic Development Division, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Pitfield Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

A. Councillor Jakobek moved:

- (i) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee providing an additional \$200,000.00 in cuts to the budget, the said cuts to be considered in the following programs:
 - (a) Economic Analysis; and/or
 - (b) Marketing/Investment Promotion; and/or
 - (c) Film Permit Processing; and
- (ii) that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to report back as soon as possible on Tourism Toronto's 1999 budget request and the impact of a 10 percent cut

consistent with the previous funding reduction agreement with former Metro Council.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

- B. Councillor Kinahan moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to Budget Committee on the costs related to implementing Film Permit Fees, to include having the said fee set at \$60.00.

(Carried)

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism;
c. Managing Director, Economic Development Division - March 9, 1999)

Arts and Culture

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for the Arts and Culture Division.

Ms. Beth Hanna, Acting Director, Culture, Arts and Heritage Division, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Chow moved:
- (i) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism and the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to report back to the Economic Development Committee and the Budget Committee on the administration of Arts Grants through the Toronto Arts Council, possibly through a similar reduction from the Cultural office as it no longer administers Arts Grants;
 - (ii) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on further reductions that may result from the restructuring of Culture and Heritage Services.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Pitfield Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- B. Councillor Jakobek moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on reducing the budget by a further \$200,000.00.
(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Acting Director, Culture, Arts & Heritage Division - March 9, 1999)

Heritage

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for the Heritage Division.

Ms. Beth Hanna, Acting Director, Culture, Arts and Heritage Division, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Shiner moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on a plan for the management and maintenance of Heritage buildings and properties, as part of the restructuring implementation, given that they are currently maintained through a number of programs including Parks and Recreation, Heritage Toronto and Facilities.
(Carried)

- B. Councillor Chow moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on possible ways of reducing the budget by a further \$100,000.00, possibly by reducing materials and supplies.
(Carried)

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Acting Director, Culture, Arts & Heritage Division - March 9, 1999)

Special Events

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for Special Events.

Ms. Jaye Robinson, Director, Special Events Division, appeared before the Budget Committee and answered Members' questions.

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- A. Councillor Jakobek moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to Budget Committee on possibly reducing the budget by \$150,000.00.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

- B. Councillor Pitfield moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to Budget Committee on providing an update in six month's time on the program's Corporate Sponsorship efforts.

(Carried)

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Director, Special Events Division - March 9, 1999)

Theatres and Galleries

The Budget Committee had before it the 1999 Operating Budget for Theatres and Galleries.

- A. Councillor Shiner moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Economic Development Committee on providing a comprehensive study respecting the future of theatres in Toronto, including those occupying City buildings that are operated privately.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- B. Councillor Jakobek moved:
 - (i) that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Economic

Development Committee on utilizing other City Departments to extend the theatres marketing capabilities;

- (ii) that the St. Lawrence Centre's budget be referred back to staff for a further report as to whether there are other alternatives to generate monies for this theatre and on any programs that are not cost effective and their possible discontinuation;
- (iii) that the General Manager of the St. Lawrence Centre be requested to report on possible expenditure reductions that can offset the \$65,000.00 marketing and sponsorship request and if reductions cannot be made to offset the full \$65,000.00, the use of capital reserve to finance this one time expense; and
- (iv) that the North York Performing Arts Centre Corporation be requested to report on the financial performance of the North York Performing Arts Centre by June 1999.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

(Economic Development Committee - March 5, 1999)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism - March 9, 1999)

The Budget Committee adjourned its meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Chair.