

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee

Meeting No. 9

Monday, February 28, 2000

The Budget Advisory Committee met on Monday, February 28, 2000, in Committee Room No. 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:15 a.m.

Attendance

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

	9:15 a.m. to 2:34 p.m.
Councillor Tom Jakobek, Chair	X
Councillor Bas Balkissoon	X
Councillor Gordon Chong	X
Councillor Olivia Chow	X
Councillor Blake F. Kinahan	X
Councillor Jane Pitfield	X
Councillor David Shiner	X

Also Present:

Councillor John Adams	Councillor Howard Moscoe
Councillor Brian Ashton	Councillor Joe Pantalone
Councillor Sandra Bussin	Councillor Kyle Rae
Councillor Mario Giansante	Councillor Bill Saundercook
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski	Councillor Sherene Shaw
Councillor George Mammoliti	Councillor David Soknacki

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Councillor David Miller	Councillor Michael Walker
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9.1 2000 Operating Budget – Preliminary Review

The Budget Advisory Committee continued its preliminary review of the 2000 Operating Budget and directed that it be forwarded to all Standing Committees for review and comment, to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee prior to the commencement of the ‘wrap-up’ meetings on April 3, 2000.

(Standing Committees; c. Chief Administrative Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; All Interested Parties – March 6, 2000)

Economic Development, Culture and Tourism

Mr. Joe Halstead, Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, appeared before the Budget Advisory Committee and answered Members’ questions in that regard.

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

- A. Councillor Jakobek moved that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to report on any Programs that are over the 1999 actuals and/or budget levels and re-prioritize the activities in order to meet 1999 levels, i.e., provide a prioritized list of activities for the 2000 Operating Budget ‘wrap-up’, exclusive of revenue increases and including recovery costs from other departments.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

- B. Councillor Shiner moved that all Departments be requested to provide a breakdown by FTEs for 1998, 1999 and 2000, including filled positions, vacant positions, total positions, additional line for transfers in and an additional line for transfers out, how many transfers were filled and how many were vacant for the 2000 Operating Budget ‘wrap-up’ meetings.

(Carried)

Culture

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for Culture.

The Budget Advisory Committee also had before it the report (February 24, 2000) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, entitled "Balance of Administrative Workload Between the Toronto Arts Council and the Culture Division".

Ms. Rita Davies, Managing Director, Culture Division, and Ms. Beth Hanna, Manager, Cultural Affairs, appeared before the Budget Advisory Committee 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 Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
- (1) the breakdown of the previous budget for the operation of the North York Performing Arts Centre Gallery prior to the City taking over the operation of the Centre, i.e., what the Budget Committee recommended last year; and the breakdown of the \$113,000.00 funding for 2000;
 - (2) what the City is contemplating doing this year to co-ordinate a program for the maintenance of public art in City streets;
 - (3) the reduction of funding for the Outdoor Public Art maintenance program and if monies can be found within the budget to reinstate same; and
 - (4) the correlation of the inventory of artwork prepared by Corporate Services and the Culture Division.

(Carried)

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

- B. Councillor Jakobek moved that:
- (1) Councillor Shiner's motion A(4) be amended by adding, "and further provide an update of such artwork, i.e., if collection has been checked, if collection is tagged, where such artwork is located, etc.";

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- (2) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
- (i) attendance records for the Market Gallery and the MOCAA per month; and
 - (ii) an interim basis for the next three years, what by-law or legislative changes are required to ensure that one percent of the development levy monies can be applied towards the maintenance of artwork, etc.; and
 - (iii) providing a game plan for the Market Gallery and art collection.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

C. Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000, on the reasoning for eliminating the proposed Program for Disadvantaged Youth in the former City of Scarborough (\$10,000.00); and
- (2) Councillor Shiner's motion A.(4) be further amended by adding the words "and whether such artwork can be exhibited."

(Carried)

D. Councillor Pitfield moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000, on pieces of public artwork that are in need of repair i.e., new frames, etc.

(Carried)

E. Councillor Chong moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000, on the impact of reducing the Chief Administrative Officer's net recommended budget by up to 5 percent.

(Carried)

Customer and Business Support

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for Customer and Business Support.

Ms. Karen Thorne-Stone, Director, Administration and Support Services Division, and Mr. Frank Kershaw, Director, Policy and Development Division, appeared before the Budget Advisory Committee and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Pitfield moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on costs associated with the increased requests for feasibility studies.

(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 Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
- (1) the true cost and details of the administration component of this Division, including FTE reduction; and
 - (2) the impact of reducing the Chief Administrative Officer's net recommended budget by up to 5 percent.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Economic Development

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for Economic Development.

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The Budget Advisory Committee also had before it the following reports:

- (a) (November 10, 1999) from the City Clerk, entitled “City Support for Community Festivals/Special Events and Major Events”; and
- (b) (November 26, 1999) from the City Clerk, entitled “Review of the Workers’ Information Action Centre of Toronto”.

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

- A. Councillor Pitfield moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
 - (1) how quickly a plan can be put in place to consolidate the film permitting function at one centralized location and what this consolidation would involve in terms of staffing and costs and further that this be considered a high priority;
 - (2) if standards have been arrived at for BIAs in terms of performance and if such standards are not met, consideration be given to eliminating the BIAs not meeting the said standards to allow 20 new BIAs waiting to be established to be considered;
 - (3) what the difference is in percentage and rates, for industrial and commercial tax between the City and “905” regions;
 - (4) with regard to the international promotion of Toronto, providing the direct benefits to the City; and further with regard to the aforementioned promotion are the cities selected producing the best possible benefit to the City, i.e., a learning experience that can be brought back and put into practice in Toronto; and
 - (5) the impact of international travel and what correlation there may be in that regard.

(Carried)

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B. Councillor Shiner moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

- (1) a complete breakdown of the WIACT Program; and
- (2) a review of office and industrial space rental.

(Carried)

C. Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on savings for the hotel industry in the City due to CVA; and
- (2) Councillor Shiner's motion B.(1) be amended by adding the words "and further, why this program has been cut by 66 percent".

(Carried)

D. Councillor Chong moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the impact of reducing the Chief Administrative Officer's net recommended budget by up to 10 percent.

(Carried)

Special Events

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for Special Events.

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

On motion by Councillor Pitfield, the Budget Advisory Committee requested the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

- (1) what percentage of the subject budget is directed towards promotion, i.e., advertising, leaflets, posters, etc.;
- (2) the cost related to an event on the day of such event; and

- (3) the impact of reducing the Chief Administrative Officer's net recommended budget by up to 5 percent.

Parks and Recreation

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for Parks and Recreation.

The Budget Advisory Committee also had before it the following reports:

- (a) (December 1, 1999) from the City Clerk, entitled "Follow-up on Initiatives Addressing Youth Violence Arising out of the Mayor's Action Plan on Youth Violence and Gang Activity";
- (b) (January 24, 2000) from the City Clerk, entitled "Follow-up on Initiatives Addressing Youth Violence Arising out of the Mayor's Action Plan on Youth Violence and Gang Activity";
- (c) (January 21, 2000) from the City Clerk, entitled "Follow-up on the Action Plan for the Children's Report Card Arising from the Children's Report Card 1999"; and
- (d) (February 22, 2000) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, entitled "The Future Practice and Implications of a Continued Water Rate Exemption for the Parks and Recreation Program".

Mr. John A. Macintyre, Acting General Manager, Parks and Recreation Division, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Pitfield moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
 - (1) limiting the number of free programs that an individual could sign up for to two;
 - (2) improvement to the registration process and if necessary hire more staff in that regard; and further advertise registration times well in advance, choose days that are physically possible for people to attend, and provide adequate neighbourhood registration locations

so that people have an alternative other than to register by phone;
and

- (3) a policy with regard to monitoring attendance.

(Carried)

B. Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:
- (i) providing details of the impact of the \$6.5 million reduction on a line by line basis, including the costs related to the following parkland reductions:
- reduced number of grass cuts per year;
 - less frequent visits from Parks staff;
reduced horticultural plantings;
 - less weed control;
 - reduced park patrols;
 - compression of seasonal worker's season; and
details of costs related to the following facility operations with regard to reduction in non-peak hours of operation at Arenas and Community Centres;
 - adjust hours to reflect user requirements and maximize efficiency;
 - where feasible, close stand-alone arenas from May to October (limiting available non-ice usage);
 - redeployment of staff adjusting staffing levels;

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level service to single person maintenance coverage where possible; eliminate midnight shifts in arenas; and

- (ii) providing budget and actuals for 1997, 1998, 1999 and an analysis of the change in expenditures as compared to the 2000 recommended budget; and

(2) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

- (i) providing revenue 'actuals' for "high needs" communities that pay user fees, and how much revenue is lost because of a fee charged for programs;
- (ii) the number of programs cancelled in the Fall of 1999, to include the number of paid programs and the number of non-payment programs;
- (iii) the impact of the ferry rate for children, students and seniors being raised; and
- (iv) details on the Youth Anti-Violence Program.

(Carried)

C. Councillor Kinahan moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000, providing a comparison of the drop out rates of the new City of Toronto and the drop out rate of the former City of Toronto for free programs.

(Carried)

D. Councillor Balkissoon moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

- (1) classifications of proposed cuts and what the outcome of the said cuts will be to the public; and

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- (2) security issues with regard to community safety and what should be done to improve control in all our facilities, i.e., parks, buildings, etc.

(Carried)

- E. Councillor Chong moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000, providing statistics on the number of people who signed up for a free program and then dropped out.

(Carried)

- F. Councillor Shiner moved that the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

- (1) ways the City could refuse enrollment to those persons that are absent in excess of 25 percent of the program in the next term;
- (2) providing a comparative analysis of all budgeted expenditures and full time equivalents (FTEs) staffing as applicable to the Forestry Program City-wide for the Year 2000, such report to include, but not be limited to, all tree plantings, pruning and maintenance, private tree by-laws, ravine management and other associated support for the forestry program; and
- (3) in consultation with the Executive Director of Human Resources, the Amalgamation Office and the Tree Advocate, review the existing organizational structure of the aforementioned forestry program and report thereon to the June 2000 Economic Development and Parks Committee on any suggested changes.

(Carried)

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

- G. Councillor Jakobek moved that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee by March 21, 2000 on the following:

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- (i) expenditure reductions due to efficiencies and management restructuring; and
 - (ii) the impact of reducing the Chief Administrative Officer's net recommended budget by up to 5 percent; and
- (2) the Budget Advisory Committee meet, if necessary, prior to the 'wrap-up' to address the issues arising from the Parks and Recreation budget.

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Toronto Transit Commission

The Budget Advisory Committee had before it the 2000 Operating Budget for the Toronto Transit Commission.

The Budget Advisory Committee also had before it the following reports:

- (a) (December 17, 1999) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission, entitled "Toronto Transit Commission 2000 Operating Budget"; and
- (b) (December 17, 1999) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission, entitled "2000 Wheel-Trans Operating Budget".

Mr. Rick Ducharme, Chief General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission, gave an overview presentation and answered Members' questions.

- A. Councillor Shiner moved that all Departments be requested to provide a breakdown by FTEs for 1998, 1999 and 2000, including filled positions, vacant positions, total positions, additional line for transfers in and an additional line for transfers out, how many transfers were filled and how many were vacant for the 2000 Operating Budget 'wrap-up' meetings.

(Carried)

- B. Councillor Chow moved that the Chair, Toronto Transit Commission, in consultation with the Chief General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission, be requested to report back to the Budget Advisory Committee on immediate opportunities for revenue generation in the year

2000 for the use of fibre optic equipment being installed in the subway tunnels.

(Carried)

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

C. Councillor Jakobek moved that:

- (1) the Chair, Toronto Transit Commission, in consultation with the Chief General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission be requested to report back by March 21, 2000 on the following:
 - (i) the 2000 request being reduced by \$5.8 million to reflect the three percent provision for wage settlement (actual settlement 2.75 percent);
 - (ii) possible change from the 1999 approved budget (\$13.5 million);
 - (iii) a 5 percent priority reduction proposal;
 - (iv) priority listing of all activities (FTE and Expenditures); and
 - (v) an analysis of the Administrative component with priority reduction proposals; and
- (2) the Chief General Manager, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested, if further reductions are necessary, to comment on drawing from the Stabilization Reserve Fund (\$8.9 million).

(Carried)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

(Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; c. Chief Administrative Officer; Commissioner of Corporate Services; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; General Manager, Children's Services Division; General Manager, Social Services Division; Director, Corporate Communications Division; City Auditor; Executive Director, Information and Technology Division; Acting General Manager, Parks and Recreation Division;

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Director, Services Integration and Support; Director, Fleet Management Services; Director, Council and Support Services; General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services Division; Chief General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission; Fire Chief; Chairman, Toronto Police Services Board; Chief of Police; Mr. Frank Chen, Director of Budgets, Toronto Police Service - February 29, 2000)

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Chief Administrative Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Councillor Joe Pantalone, Tree Advocate; Executive Director, Human Resources; Director, Special Projects Office; Managing Director, Culture, Arts and Heritage; Director, Administration and Support Services; Managing Director, Economic Development; Acting General Manager, Parks and Recreation; Director, Special Events; Committee Administrator, Economic Development and Parks Committee; Committee Administrator, Budget Advisory Committee - February 29, 2000)

(Chief General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission - February 29, 2000)

The Budget Advisory Committee adjourned its meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Chair