THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Economic Development and Parks Committee

Meeting No. 9

Friday, September 14, 2001

The Economic Development and Parks Committee met on Friday, September 14, 2001, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:44 a.m.

Attendance:

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

	9:44 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.
Councillor Michael Feldman, Chair	Х
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Vice Chair	Х
Councillor Maria Augimeri	Х
Councillor Raymond Cho	Х
Councillor John Filion	Х
Councillor George Mammoliti	Х
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong	Х
Councillor Ron Moeser	R

Also Present:

Councillor Olivia Chow	
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Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Minutes of the Economic Development and Parks Committee meeting held on July 9, 2001, were confirmed.

9.1 Toronto Garden Competition

The Economic Development and Parks Committee received an overview presentation from Mr. Mark Inglis of the gardens that won the Toronto Garden Competition. Mr. Inglis also introduced the winners.

The Chair, on behalf of Committee, congratulated the winners and presented the awards.

The following persons also appeared before the Economic Development and Parks Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Rebecca Galloway, Traditional Residential Garden Category;
- Ms. Ethel Kalebaba, Traditional Residential Garden Category;
- Ms. Carole Rowe, Traditional Residential Garden Category;
- Ms. Dagmar Baur, Bain Co-op, Environmental Residential Garden Category;
- Ms. Jennifer Carpenter, Yamaha Canada Music Ltd., Commercial Garden Category; and
- Ms. Maggie Armitage, The Old Mill, Commercial Garden Category.

Councillor Feldman appointed Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned presentation.

Councillor Feldman resumed the Chair.

(Clause No. 6(a), Report No. 9)

9.2 Economic Importance of Culture to Toronto

The Economic Development and Parks Committee received, for information, an overview presentation from Ms. Kelly O'Brien LLP, Arthur Andersen LLP, outlining the outcome of a high level assessment of the economic impact of the culture sector in Toronto.

The Chair, on behalf of Committee, thanked Ms. O'Brien for her very informative presentation.

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned presentation.

(Clause No. 6(b), Report No. 9)

9.3 Festivals and Events Held Along Toronto's Waterfront in Former Etobicoke and Scarborough (Various Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (June 18, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, reporting as requested by City Council, on special events that can be sponsored along the waterfront in the areas of the City of Toronto formerly known as the Cities of Etobicoke and Scarborough; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received for aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 6(c), Report No. 9)

9.4 2001 Youth Action Plan

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it the following communications:

- (a) (September 5, 2001) from Councillor Olivia Chow, Youth Advocate, advising that the Toronto Youth Cabinet and the Parks and Recreation Division submitted a list of youth programs for consideration during the 2001 budget deliberations; that while the Economic Development and Parks Committee supported these initiatives, the Budget Advisory Committee and Council did not provide funding in the 2001 Operating Budget; and requesting that funding be provided in the 2002 Operating Budget; and
- (b) (September 6, 2001) from Councillor Maria Augimeri, Ward 9 York Centre, forwarding requests from the Building Hope Coalition that the Economic Development and Parks Committee give consideration to:
 - (i) support for the 2001 Youth Program Expansion Proposal for the 2001 Action Plan Report City Wide; and
 - (ii) funding for skills-related programs, The "Two-Wheel Drive" Program, presently run under the supervision of the Economic Development Division.

The following persons appeared before the Economic Development and Parks Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Valarie Steele, President, Jamaican Canadian Association;
- Reverend Paulette Crooks-Drummond; and
- Councillor Olivia Chow, Ward 20 Trinity Spadina.
 - A. Councillor Augimeri moved that:
 - (1) the request from the Building Hope Coalition, embodied in the aforementioned communication (September 6, 2001) from Councillor Maria Augimeri (Ward 9 York Centre), and the communication (September 2, 2001) from Councillor Olivia Chow, Youth Advocate, be referred to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration during the 2002 budget deliberations;
 - (2) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report to the Economic Development and Parks Committee on funding for skill-related programs and the "Two–Wheel Drive" Program; and
 - (3) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to re-examine the location of the proposed programs and re-adjust same to focus on some of the "high needs" areas.

(Carried)

B. Councillor Minnan-Wong moved that Councillor Augimeri's motion A. (2) be amended by adding thereto the following:

"including re-examination of funding from other levels of government;"

(Carried)

(Budget Advisory Committee; Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Ms. Valarie Steele, Jamaican Canadian Association; Reverend Paulette Crooks-Drummond; and Councillor Olivia Chow, Ward 20 Trinity Spadina - September 17, 2001)

(Clause No. 6(d), Report No. 9)

9.5 Economic Development Strategy Implementation Status (All Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee has before it a report (August 23, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, providing an update on progress made and proposed future actions to implement the Economic Development Strategy adopted by City Council in August 2000; and recommending that:

- (1) Council endorse the mandate for the Toronto 1st Partnership which is to advance the strategic directions articulated in the City's Economic Development Strategy; mobilize Toronto's issues with senior levels of government; represent Toronto businesses to international investment interests; act as a focus for renewing a sense of civic pride; and act as an advisory group to the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer;
- (2) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism be requested to report back on the membership of the Toronto 1st Partnership and on further progress made to advance the strategic directions and key priorities identified in the Economic Development Strategy; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cho, the Economic Development and Parks Committee:

- (1) recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report; and
- (2) requested the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to report to the Economic Development and Parks Committee on:
 - special funding being established for the implementation of Economic Development strategies for the City in the 2002 budget; and
 - (ii) a tax incentive program for new industrial and commercial businesses in the City, including subsidies from the Federal and Provincial governments.

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism - September 17, 2001)

(Clause No. 1, Report No. 9)

9.6 A Review and Analysis of the Use of Parkland and Dedication Credits (All Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 21, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, reviewing and analyzing the possible use of parkland dedication credits, including the exchange of parkland dedication credits across the City; and recommending that parkland dedication credits not be used in the City.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 2, Report No. 9)

9.7 Arts and Culture Grants – Museums, Campbell House and Toronto's First Post Office (Ward 20 Trinity-Spadina and Ward 28 Toronto Centre-Rosedale)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 24, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, providing grant allocation recommendations for Campbell House and Toronto's First Post Office; and recommending that:

- (1) Campbell House be awarded a grant of \$35,000.00 to be applied to their 2001 operating budget;
- (2) Toronto's First Post Office be awarded a grant of \$27,000.00 to be applied to their 2001 operating year; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Minnan-Wong, the Economic Development and Parks Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 3, Report No. 9)

9.8 Support for Canada's Olympians

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 1, 2001) from the Acting City Clerk, advising that City Council, at its meeting of July 24, 25 and 26, 2001, referred the following Motion to the Economic Development and Parks Committee for consideration:

"WHEREAS Council had committed itself to a bid to host the 2008 games at an estimated cost of over 2 billion dollars for the construction of facilities and infrastructure, and considering the amount needed by Toronto's athletes to adequately support their personal best endeavours is very small in comparison; and

WHEREAS Canada's Olympians have invested a great deal of personal sacrifice to bring honour to Canada, and they have increasingly become discouraged by the minimal financial support given them by the federal government for, amongst other things: practice facilities, travel, and accommodation expenses, during both Olympic events and in between Olympic events; and

WHEREAS despite being unsuccessful in our bid to host the 2008 Olympics, Toronto can still make a significant contribution to the 2008 Olympic Games by making a tangible investment in our athletes and ensuring that they receive the kind of support they require and deserve in preparation for the 2008 Games; and

WHEREAS our athletes are disappointed that their commitment and personal sacrifice is not being adequately recognized by our government at all levels, that it is incumbent on Toronto (the largest municipality in Canada and a bidder for the 2008 Olympic Games), to provide leadership in the provision of supplementary financial support to that being provided; and

WHEREAS Toronto's support can only be extended to its own athletes, due to budget constraints arising from provincial downloading etc, and that Toronto's tax base is dependent solely on the assessment of real property; and

WHEREAS this motion was introduced in October 2000 during the previous term of Council and despite our pending bid for the 2008 Olympics was not acted on by City Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Toronto City Council adopt principles for the creation of the 'Toronto Olympic Athletes' Assistance Program' as follows:

- (1) immediately commit to an initial yearly funding of 50 cents per capita;
- (2) lobby the federal and provincial levels of government to provide funds in addition to that currently provided, at some multiple of Toronto's contribution of 50 cents per capita;

- (3) create a new Committee of Council to further develop Toronto's commitment to its athletes; the Committee's mandate will include:
 - (a) investigate examples of the difficulties and financial shortfalls experienced by our athletes in the Sydney and previous Olympic Games;
 - (b) the appropriate level of ongoing funds;
 - (c) the most cost effective manner in which financial support can be delivered to our athletes; and
 - (d) to convey Council's position and challenge other municipalities across Canada to introduce, encourage and facilitate expansion of financial support to Olympians from all parts of Canada."

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Economic Development and Parks Committee:

- (1) referred the aforementioned Motion to the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for report thereon to the Economic Development and Parks Committee, the said report to include new and renovated recreation centres in the City of Toronto that include facilities where Canadian athletes can train; and
- (2) requested that, if and when a new Committee of Council is established to further develop Toronto's commitment to its athletes, the said Committee report quarterly to the Economic Development and Parks Committee.

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Councillor Michael Walker, Ward 20 St. Paul's -September 17, 2001)

(Clause 6(e), Report No. 9)

9.9 Status Report – Transfer of Heritage Toronto's Budget to Consolidated Grants (All Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 21, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, providing a status report on the potential transfer of Heritage Toronto's budget from the Economic Development and Parks Department to Consolidated Grants; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

(Clause No. 6(f), Report No. 9)

9.10 Vehicle Ferry Services to the Toronto Islands (Ward 20 Trinity-Spadina)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 23, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, reporting as requested by the Budget Advisory Committee on April 6, 2001, on the provision of vehicle ferry services to the Toronto Islands; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

(Clause No. 6(g), Report No. 9)

9.11 Status Report – Reducing Preventative Maintenance in Facilities and Parks (All Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 21, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, providing a status report on the reduction of the preventative maintenance program in facilities and reducing preventative maintenance in parks; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Augimeri, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

(Clause No. 6(h), Report No. 9)

9.12 Status Report - Harmonization of Business Improvement Area Practices and Procedures (All Wards)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 22, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, advising that the report on the proposed harmonization of Business Improvement Area practices and procedures, originally targeted for the September meeting of the Economic Development and Parks Committee, will be submitted for consideration at the October 22, 2001 meeting.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 6(i), Report No. 9)

9.13 Feasibility of Prohibiting Daytime Deliveries in the Downtown Core (Ward 20 Trinity-Spadina and Ward 27 and Ward 28 Toronto Centre-Rosedale)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a report (August 22, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism reviewing the potential impact of requiring that all commercial deliveries in the core area of the City be made overnight during off-peak hours; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

(Clause No. 6(j), Report No. 9)

9.14 City of Toronto Arts and Culture Grants January to June 2001

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a communication (July 2001) from Mr. Kim Tomczak, President, Toronto Arts Council, forwarding for information, a report on the City of Toronto Arts and Culture Grants covering the first six months in 2001 (January 1 to June 30), describing the economic impact of the City's financial investment in the arts community and the impressive array of new work, creativity and community animation that resulted.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

(Clause No. 6(k), Report No. 9)

9.15 Removal of Crab Apple Trees on City Boulevards

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a the following motion (not dated) from Councillor Joanne Flint, Ward 25 Don Valley West:

"WHEREAS fallen apples from crab apple trees rot and attract wasps; and

WHEREAS many people are allergic to wasp stings and passers-by are frightened of wasps - (especially children); and

WHEREAS fallen crab apples are also used as projectiles by passing school children to the annoyance and danger of other people; and

WHEREAS rotting crab apples cause the sidewalk to be slippery - thereby increasing the possibility of accidents and litigation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, at the request of an abutting owner, crab apple trees on City boulevards be removed by the City at no cost to the owner and replaced with a more suitable tree, the species to be determined in consultation with the owner."

On motion by Councillor Augimeri, the Economic Development and Parks Committee referred the aforementioned motion to the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for report thereon to the October 22, 2001 Economic Development and Parks Committee meeting.

(Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism; c. Councillor Joanne Flint, Ward 25 Don Valley West - September 17, 2001)

(Clause No. 6(l), Report No. 9)

16. Exhibition of Photographs by Daisaku Ikeda

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a communication (September 10, 2001) from the City Clerk, advising that the Works Committee, at its meeting of September 10, 2001, referred the communication (August 29, 2001) from Mr. Tony Meers, General Director, Soka Gakkai International Association of Canada, respecting an exhibition of photographs by Daisaku Ikeda, to the Economic Development and Parks Committee for consideration.

Mr. Tony Meers, General Director, Soka Gakkai International Association of Canada, appeared before the Economic Development and Parks Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

On motion by Councillor Cho, the Economic Development and Parks Committee recommended to Council that:

- (1) the endorsement of the exhibition of photographs by Daisaku Ikeda in the atrium of BCE Place from October 29 to November 10, 2001; and
- (2) the Mayor be requested to proclaim October 29, 2001 as "Dialogue with Nature Day".

(Clause No. 4, Report No. 9)

9.17 Toronto Centre for the Arts Update on Labour Negotiations (Ward 23 Willowdale)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a confidential report (September 14, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism providing an update on labour negotiations for the Toronto Centre for the Arts.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Economic Development and Parks Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned confidential report.

(Clause No. 5, Report No. 9)

18. Request for Support from Metronome Canada

The Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a communication (September 13, 2001) from Councillor Michael Feldman, Chair, Economic Development and Parks Committee, respecting a request from Metronome Canada.

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Economic Development and Parks Committee:

- (1) deferred consideration of this matter until its meeting of October 22, 2001; and
- (2) requested that Council's decision with regard to this matter be provided to Members of Committee at that time.

(Clause No. 6(m), Report No. 9)

The Economic Development and Parks Committee adjourned its meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Chair