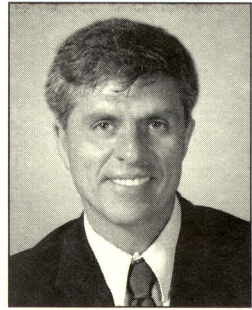




Cesar Palacio

City Councillor - Ward 17 • Davenport



Gloria
Bruce
Jane

February 9th, 2007

To: Mayor David Miller, Chair of the Executive Committee

From: Councillor Cesar Palacio

Re: **Prohibiting Lobbyists from Contributing to Municipal Election Campaigns**

On Tuesday February 6th City Council debated the lobbyist registry framework, and the appointment of Toronto's first Lobbyist Registrar. During the debate I proposed that Council investigate methods of prohibiting lobbyists from contributing to candidates in the City of Toronto municipal election.

With the passage of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, the Province, responding to a request from the City, provided Council with the authority to ban corporations and trade unions from making a contribution to any candidate for an office on City Council. In keeping with the spirit of this new power, I would like to recommend that the Executive Committee consider the following and ask the Clerk, in conjunction with the Lobbyist Registrar and the City Solicitor, where appropriate, report back on the following:

- That the Province be requested to amend the City of Toronto Act to prohibit lobbyists from making campaign contributions in future municipal elections, similar to the manner in which the City of Toronto is authorized to ban corporations and trade unions from making donations under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*.
- That the City Clerk, in consultation with the Lobbyist Registrar, develop a mechanism to make lobbyists ineligible from participating in the 2010 Contribution Rebate Program; and,

By prohibiting donations from lobbyists as a Council we will be sending a strong, unmistakable message that donations and contributions cannot be used as leverage to gain influence in municipal affairs. This is the right message, and right approach and I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Cesar Palacio
 Toronto City Councillor
 Ward 17 – Davenport

c. Ulli S. Watkiss, City Clerk
 Members of Toronto City Council