



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Toronto Appointments to the Waste Diversion Ontario Board of Directors

Date:	June 10, 2008
To:	Executive Committee
From:	City Manager
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

In 2005 Toronto Council asked the Province of Ontario to provide a seat on the board of directors of Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) for a City of Toronto appointment. The Province of Ontario has recently revised the WDO governance structure and amended the Province's Operating Agreement with WDO with the effect of providing Toronto with representation in its own right.

This report recommends that the Council appoint the Mayor or his designate as the City of Toronto appointment to WDO.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Manager recommends that Toronto Council appoint the Mayor or his designate to the Board of Directors of Waste Diversion Ontario.

Financial Impact

The recommendations of this report will have no financial implications.

Equity Statement

Not applicable.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on February 1-3, 2005 Toronto Council considered Clause 2 of Report 2 of the Policy and Finance Committee which, among other issues, addressed Toronto representation on the board of Waste Diversion Ontario. Council asked the Province of Ontario to take the action necessary to provide representation by the City of Toronto on the Waste Diversion Ontario Board of Directors and to enable the City to directly appoint its nominees to the board. The City of Toronto has reiterated this request several times.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) was established by the Province of Ontario through the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002*. The Act provides that the Board of Directors consist of appointments by stakeholder groups including four representatives of municipalities appointed by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

WDO is a non-crown corporation established to develop, implement and operate waste diversion programs. The *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* empowers the Minister of the Environment to designate materials for which waste diversion programs are to be established. Waste diversion programs include an agreement between the WDO and the industry funding organization that participates in the development of the program that sets out the rules and funding of the program.

In a letter to Mayor Miller dated May 2, 2008, the Chair of the WDO Board advised the City that the Minister of the Environment and the board of directors of WDO agreed to a revised structure for the WDO board. The new structure provides for one member of the board to be appointed by the City of Toronto and three members to be appointed jointly by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario.

COMMENTS

Toronto contributes over 20% of the recyclable material in the Province. Toronto has implemented innovative and aggressive programs that have resulted in a 58% waste diversion rate for single-family homes in 2007. Toronto is participating in a pilot program with the Province to increase diversion in apartment buildings. The City of Toronto's Target 70 is an aggressive program aimed at 70% waste diversion by 2010. It is appropriate that Toronto have a seat on the Board of WDO in order to participate in the decision-making about diversion programs.

The new WDO board structure, with a direct appointment to the Board by the City of Toronto, is consistent with the position of Toronto Council.

The *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* and the Operating Agreement between the Ministry of Environment and WDO do not specify any restrictions or requirements regarding the status of an individual for appointment as a municipal representative to WDO. The City of Toronto could therefore appoint a member of Council, a member of staff or a member of the general public. The letter from WDO sets out the desired expertise and

characteristics of board members and asks that these be taken into consideration in the appointment process.

This report recommends that Council appoint the Mayor or his designate as the Toronto appointment to the board. This provides the Mayor with the option of participating on the board or designating another person. It also provides the flexibility that the Mayor's designate could be a member of Council or a member of staff depending on the nature of the participation needed by the City.

CONCLUSION

This report recommends that the City of Toronto appoint the Mayor or his designate to the Board of Directors of Waste Diversion Ontario.

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SIGNATURE

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