

Ref: 2008-MM22.6

June 27, 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

City Council on June 23 and 24, 2008, referred the following Motion to the Executive Committee:

MM22.6 City Council Endorsement of One Cent Now Campaign
*Moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Cho***SUMMARY:**

In February 2007, Mayor Miller embarked upon the "One Cent Now" campaign to convince the Federal government to give municipalities 1-cent (20% of GST total revenues) of the 5-cent Goods and Services Tax (GST). This campaign apparently originated in Mayor Miller's office and City Council was not involved in its development or approval.

The "One Cent Now" (www.onecentnow.ca) campaign seeks a new, better fiscal relationship between Cities, especially the City of Toronto, and the Federal government. A new relationship is now required due to Toronto's and other Cities' growing infrastructure deficit, need for sustainable funding for public transportation, and other City-wide initiatives.

It is now almost a year and half into this campaign. The Federal government has not recognized the requests made by Mayor Miller via this campaign.

To aid this campaign, it would be useful to give City Council's endorsement to this campaign. A strong endorsement by City Council would show the Federal government that this is not a unilateral campaign of the Mayor's but is a serious request from the City of Toronto, Canada's largest city.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That City Council endorse Mayor David Miller's "One Cent Now" campaign.
2. That this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and all the members of the House of Commons and the Senate.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd