

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 8, 2009
To: Chair and Members of the Government Management
Committee
From: Howard Moscoe

Re: Running around in circles

Since amalgamation, the new government of the City of Toronto has been operating from its present location for nine years now. I may be a slow learner but I have yet to figure out where all of the committee rooms are located. Each time I set out to a meeting in, say Committee room B, I have to ask where that is. The names of the Committee Rooms and Councillor office locations have not been well thought out and it is particularly puzzling because the hall is circular. I know that I am not the only one who is confused because I often have to ask several people where a committee room may be located before I can find someone who actually knows. The committee rooms should be renamed so that the name gives some kind of a clue as to its location. I imagine the difficulty that someone coming into City Hall from the outside might face in order to get to a meeting.

To start, the names of the internal street should be changed for locational identification purposes. A, B, C and D street names should be changed to Queen Street, Bay Street, Dundas Street and University Avenue so that visitors and staff can immediately determine which way to head. This could be done without changing letterheads.

Recommendations:

1. The matter of committee room identification be referred to the Clerk for a report back to the Government Management Committee within two months.
2. That staff consider appropriate names for committee rooms which will offer some clues as to their location.
3. That consideration be given to using a different nomenclature for committee rooms inside the cone of security than those accessible from public areas. Inside committee room names might incorporate the street names.
4. That consideration also be given to naming the publicly accessible committee rooms after former mayors.
5. In reviewing committee room names, consideration be given to incorporating the same principles into the naming of committee rooms at the various civic centres.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours in Government

Howard Moscoe

Ward 15 Councillor

Eglinton-Lawrence

Ids/Government Management/Running in Circles