David Miller, Mayor

Office of the Mayor

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January 12, 2004

MEMORANDUM

To:

Members of the Policy and Finance Committee

From:

Mayor David Miller

Re:

Addressing Public Concern about Integrity and Lobbying at City Hall

In the past eighteen months the public has made it clear they are concerned about the integrity of public officials, particularly when it comes to behind-the-scenes lobbying and improper influence.

City Council is already on record supporting two important measures to restore public faith in City Hall – a lobbyist registry and an integrity commissioner.

Both measures may require the Province to make amendments to the City of Toronto Act to allow the City to implement them with the full range of investigative and enforcement mechanisms to make them work.

Our new Premier has indicated he is interested in giving cities the tools they need to govern themselves effectively. In the coming weeks I intend to ask the Premier and the Minister of Municipal Affairs to act on Council's outstanding requests when the Legislature reconvenes in the March.

In order to move forward and to demonstrate Council's resolve, I am recommending that:

- 1. The CAO and City Solicitor proceed with drafting by-laws that would establish the lobbyist registry and integrity commissioner that Council could enact when it has the full legislative authority to do so; and
- 2. The CAO and City Solicitor report to the February Policy and Finance Committee meeting:
 - (a) Summarizing Council actions and positions adopted to date with respect to lobbying and integrity;
 - (b) Setting out the options for the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner pending the legislative changes needed to appoint an official with investigative powers; and
 - (c) Updating Council on discussions with Provincial officials on Council's requests for legislative changes.

Mayor David Miller