



Councillor Office Expenses Budget

Date:	December 1, 2010
To:	Executive Committee
From:	Mayor Rob Ford

SUMMARY

During my campaign, I promised to reduce the Councillor Expense Budget and to tighten up the rules on what are considered eligible expenses. While the actual savings are not huge, this reduction is highly symbolic of the will of Toronto City Council to listen to the voice of the public and demonstrate leadership in fiscal restraint and respect for the taxpayer.

I am hereby requesting that City Council vote to reduce the Councillor Office Expenses Budget, effective January 1, 2011, from the current annual budget level of \$50,445 to \$30,000.

This will result in a reduction in the 2011 operating budget requirements for City Council in the amount of \$899,580. I am therefore, also requesting the City Clerk to resubmit to Financial Planning staff the 2011 Operating Budget for City Council to reflect this reduction.

The new 2011 City Council Operating Budget submission will be considered, along with all other city budgets, during the City's 2011 operating budget process.

At the same time, the Councillor Expense Policy needs to be reviewed with a view of clarifying and tightening the categories of eligible expenses. I am requesting that the Deputy Mayor and the City Clerk undertake this review, consult with Members of Council and report back to Council via Executive Committee in April 2011.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that:

1. City Council approve the reduction of the annual individual Councillor Office Expenses Budget from \$50,445 to \$30,000, effective January 1, 2011.
2. City Council direct the City Clerk to resubmit to Financial Planning the 2011 operating budget for City Council at \$899,580 lower to reflect the reduction in the councillor office expenses budget.
3. City Council request the Deputy Mayor and City Clerk to review the Councillor Expense Policy in consultation with Members of Council and report back to City Council via Executive Committee in April 2011.

Mayor Rob Ford