



City of Toronto

Mayor Rob Ford

March 7 2011

To: Executive Committee

From: Mayor Ford

Re: Whistleblower Protection Policy

Recommendation:

The City Manager, in consultation with relevant staff, report back to the April 20th Executive Committee meeting with recommendations to strengthen protection for Whistleblowers who report instances of waste and mismanagement of City resources.

Background:

One of the commitments that I made during the course of last year's election campaign was to strengthen the protections afforded to whistleblowers. Presently, Whistleblower Protection falls under the Fraud Prevention Policy and extends only to staff members who report instances of fraud within the organization. However, I feel that this provision is limiting, as it does not extend to staff who report waste and mismanagement of resources. Staff on the front lines are in a unique position to observe and recommend possibilities for uncovering greater efficiencies; offering them protection from retribution will make many staff feel more comfortable to come forward with their suggestions and observations. Therefore, I would like staff to report back to the Executive Committee and outline the options available for implementing provisions to extend the scope of the Whistleblower Protection Policy.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rob Ford