

Ward 4, Etobicoke Centre

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Date: April 3, 2017
To: Executive Committee
From: Councillor John Campbell
Re: Proposed Amendment to the Rules of Council and Committee Debate

Background:

It is a right of every Councillor to be able to have proper information in order to make good, sound, responsible decisions. When amendments are brought to the floor of Council our procedural by-law currently does not allow Councillors to question City officials, I believe in order to make informed decisions this must be changed.

Often amendments proposed on the floor of Council are deficient of information and I believe not having the ability to publically ask questions of City officials lacks transparency. It is our responsibility that all Councillors are privy to the same information as we are all accountable for the impact a proposed amendment will have on the City.


Allowing Councillors the opportunity to ask questions of City officials will allow us to formulate our decisions more comprehensively, effectively and transparently.

Recommendations:

I recommend that City Council amend the Council Procedures to provide that:

1. Members be permitted to question City officials as well as the mover immediately after other members have made amending motions during committee and Council debate
2. Such questions and their responses be limited to 5 minutes per member
3. Such questions be limited to seeking information about the effect of the preceding amendment.

Sincerely,



John Campbell
Councillor Ward 4
Etobicoke Centre