



John Tory
Mayor

January 9, 2023

Budget Committee
City of Toronto

RE: January 10, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Members of the Budget Committee,

I write to you regarding the City's 2023 Budget process, in advance of your consideration of *BU1.1 2023 Capital and Operating Budget Launch* at tomorrow's Budget Committee meeting.

While the Province's Bill 3 now provides that I present the City's annual budget to City Council on February 1, the Budget Committee will continue to follow an open and collaborative process as it has in prior years that includes: public reviews of divisions' and agencies' budgets; extensive public consultation; and input, advice, and recommendations from the Budget Committee.

The schedule for the 2023 Budget process, as set out under *ST1.2 - 2023 Schedule of Meetings*, was approved by City Council at its November 23, 2022 meeting.

In line with the Council-approved schedule, the Budget Committee will launch the 2023 Budget process tomorrow with a presentation from the City Manager and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, to be followed later this week by Councillors' reviews of service areas and selected agencies.

Next week, the Budget Committee will host public deputations in-person as well as by videoconference. Meetings will be held in each of downtown, North York, Scarborough, and Etobicoke. This is the first time since the start of the pandemic that the Budget Committee will have in-person deputations on the City's budget, as well as the first time in the City's history that the public will be provided with both in-person and virtual options – which I believe will make the 2023 Budget process even more accessible than in prior years.

On January 24, 2023, the Budget Committee will have its "wrap-up meeting" to provide its final advice and recommendations on the operating and capital budget. As a result of Bill 3 and *Mayoral Decision 1-2022*, the Budget Committee is also specifically responsible for making recommendations to Council on any operating or capital budgets in which the Mayor has a pecuniary interest, which will be separate from the annual budget I propose to City Council on February 1.

As I disclosed to the City Clerk, I have a role as trustee and director of certain entities within the Rogers family structure which control Rogers Communications Inc. (RCI), which provides telephone and cellular services, and other services to the City and might have an interest in any changes to the operation of BMO Field affecting its tenants. Because of this interest, I am declaring an interest in the 2023 Information and Technology Operating Budget. I am also declaring an interest in the 2023 Toronto Police Services Budget, the Toronto Transit Commission Budget and the Toronto Community Housing Corporation Budget in each case as it relates (and only as it relates) to funds for telephone, wireless and internet services. In addition, out of an abundance of caution, I am also declaring an interest in the 2023 Exhibition Place Budget as it relates to capital funds for BMO Field. Out of an abundance of caution, I also confirm that at no point have I provided input or direction to City Staff concerning those interests, nor to any specific or general provision of funding for telecommunications budgets.

This declaration process differs from the process in prior years because of changes in applicable legislation. Recent changes to the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* require this declaration in advance of my presentation of the budget on February 1, 2023, in addition to the existing requirement to make a similar declaration in Council when the Budget is considered by Council on February 14, 2023. In making this declaration, I have consulted with the Integrity Commissioner with respect to certain matters.

I look forward to a collaborative 2023 Budget process and thank you all for the invaluable work which the Budget Committee provides in shaping the City's annual budget.

Sincerely,



John Tory
Mayor of Toronto

