

Dear Council colleagues,

Upon my election as your mayor just over six weeks ago, I made a personal commitment to you to bring a deeply collaborative style of leadership to City Hall and a renewed purpose to deliver the kind of change that the people demand.

We have many real and immediate challenges ahead of us – from making life more affordable, to turning around our housing crisis, delivering better public services, providing fast, affordable and reliable transit to all corners of the city, and managing our increasingly perilous fiscal situation.

During the last few weeks, I spoke to each and every member of council regarding your priorities for the next three years, what you would like to accomplish and what would make you proud of your contributions and achievements. I learned a great deal from your impressive experience and talents. We shared our passion for this city and discussed what role you might want to play and how we can accomplish our common goals together.

In putting forward recommendations to the Striking Committee I was guided by our conversations and the words of Elder Duke Redbird who, on the day of my installation as Mayor, called on all of us to; “...take the time, and with patience, choose the best materials to build your canoe. The best birch bark, the best cedar, the best pine roots and the best pitch. With practice we acquire the experience and the knowledge to be ready for the unexpected.”

In making decisions I've made efforts to match Councillors' particular skills, depth of knowledge, the community they represent and their lived experience with their new role as either a committee chair, vice chair, member, issue champion or Deputy Mayor.

I'm proud of this new Toronto Team. A team that reflects the city it serves. One team deeply, and single-mindedly focused on the people's priorities and building a city that is more affordable, safe, and caring – where everyone belongs.

I look forward to all that we can accomplish together in the years ahead.

Mayor Olivia Chow.

Deputy Mayors and Local Democracy: It's important that every corner of the city is heard by City Hall and that the administration reflects the diversity of the city that it serves. I'm therefore appointing four Deputy Mayors, each representing a distinct corner of this city who will bring their community's concerns, energy and ideas to City Hall and the Executive committee on which they will also each sit:

- **Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik** – I'm honoured to recommend Ausma as my first Deputy Mayor. Her experience as a former school trustee, a committed city-builder and city councillor will be invaluable to me. I know she will bring fresh ideas and energy to this role.
- A true and trusted public servant, someone who served the city well recently from the Mayor's desk, **Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie** will continue with that role, representing her beloved Scarborough.
- Long standing community advocate **Deputy Mayor Amber Morley** will represent Etobicoke with passion, strength and determination.
- Having represented North York for decades in both provincial and municipal government, **Deputy Mayor Mike Colle** will be a strong, experienced voice for his community.

A Renewed Focus on Housing: Building and investing in affordable housing is a top priority for the people of our City. We will need a renewed focus on this critical file:

- As the new Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee, **Councillor Gord Perks** will bring to the table new ideas and a wealth of experience to this important file.
- **Councillor Brad Bradford** will serve as Vice Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee using his unparalleled knowledge of the planning process to unlock fast, transparent and accountable housing approvals so we can build more homes faster.
- With her deep experience and commitment to affordable housing, **Councillor Paula Fletcher** will be my designate at the Toronto Community Housing Corporation and CreateTO helping to build and maintain affordable housing.
- **Councillor Vincent Crisanti** will be my designate on the Toronto Seniors Housing Corporation. I know he will be a strong voice for solutions to the unique housing challenges seniors face.

Improving Public Transit: We must do more to improve public transit across our city. From stimulating ridership, to making the experience safer, and ensuring all corners of the city have access to affordable, fast and reliable service, there is much work ahead to bring back the "better way:"

- As a long time transit advocate and now Chair of the TTC, **Councillor Jamaal Myers** will provide strong leadership as a transit rider and voice for Scarborough. His background as a corporate lawyer will help to ensure TTC contracts are delivered on time and on budget.
- **Councillor Josh Matlow** will also be bringing his depth of knowledge, innovative ideas and passion for this city to a service that is for many, the lifeblood of Toronto.

New Perspectives on Community Safety: While our city remains one of the safest in Canada, there's so much more we can be doing to ensure every Torontonians feels safe in their community:

- **Councillor Jon Burnside's** experience as a former police officer and his deep commitment to effective and transformative community policing will be invaluable as he joins the Toronto Police Services Board.
- As a strong advocate for community policing **Councillor Amber Morley** will be a vital new voice on the Police Board
- **Councillor Lily Cheng's** dedication to citizen engagement will be indispensable in making the board even more responsive to the community.

Tackling our Budget Challenges: Our city continues to face a number of fiscal challenges, including the pressing need for a new deal with the Provincial and Federal governments:

- **Councillor Shelley Carroll** will bring her decades of experience, deep understanding of the City's complex financial position, and her passion for participatory budgeting to the role of Chair of the Budget Committee.

Investing in Communities, Good Jobs and Affordability: As life continues to get less affordable for people, we need to focus our efforts on creating good, well paying, local jobs. We also need to give voice to the half of our city that are renters:

- **Councillor Alejandra Bravo** will Chair the Economic and Community Development Committee, focused on investing in the strength of our communities including, parks, childcare, other vital social services and local economic benefits.
- As Vice Chair, **Councillor Shelley Carroll** will focus on economic development, attracting investment and expanding local business.
- **Councillor Chris Moise** will bring his deep experience as a champion for small business and local economic opportunities to the Economic and Community Development Committee, while providing leadership as Chair of the Confronting Anti-Black Racism and the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committees.

A New Deal for Cities: **Councillor Brad Bradford** and **Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie** will join the Board of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to press the case for a New Deal for Cities. They will be supported by **Councillor Paul Ainslie** and **Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik** who are joining as alternates.

Better City Services: As we look to improve the delivery of city services **Councillor Stephen Holyday** will lead on leveraging 311 data to better understand how we can improve city services and be more responsive to the needs of all Torontonians. He will be assisted by **Councillors Paul Ainslie, Lily Cheng, Jaye Robinson** and **Gord Perks**.

Combatting Hate: A strong, experienced and passionate advocate for a city where everyone belongs, **Councillor James Pasternak** will be a champion for the important and urgent work to combat hate in our city.

Tackling the climate crisis: While it will be all of our job to ensure that the city is doing all it can to combat climate change and to make the city more resilient in the face of its impacts, with her rich experience as Ontario's Environmental Commissioner, **Councillor Dianne Saxe** will be a strong champion on environmental files.

Continuity at Council: **Speaker Frances Nunziata** will provide invaluable continuity in her role as speaker after 13 years of service and experience chairing Council, and **Councillor Paula Fletcher** will take on the role of Deputy Speaker.

On the Infrastructure and Environment Committee, **Deputy Mayor McKelvie** and **Deputy Mayor Mike Colle** will provide continuity and leadership as Chair and Vice Chair. **Councillor Paul Ainslie** will continue his important work shepherding the core functions of our city as Chair of the General Government Committee, and in supporting our vibrant night culture as the City's Night Economy Champion.

Preparing for FIFA 2026: **Councillor Jaye Robinson** will lead a team composed of **Councillors Nick Mantas, Mike Colle, Michael Thompson, Ausma Malik and Anthony Perruzza** to ensure we're successful in hosting FIFA 2023, and that it's delivered on time and on budget. I know many across our City are excited to cheer on their teams when the World Cup comes to Toronto.