

Ensuring Transparency and Accountability in the Mayor's Office

Date: May 26, 2025
To: Executive Committee
From: City Council
Wards: All

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on May 21 and 22, 2025, referred Motion MM30.15 to the Executive Committee for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Mayor to begin livestreaming the Mayor's press conferences and other media availabilities online, including the Question and Answer period with media.
2. City Council request the Mayor to grant full access to media availabilities for all Members of Council and their staff.

SUMMARY

The Mayor of Toronto regularly holds media availabilities in their City Hall office.

For nearly a decade, it was standard practice for these press conferences to be livestreamed to the public, ensuring broad public accessibility and transparency. Similar practices exist in other major cities – for example, the Mayors of Ottawa, Vancouver, and New York City routinely livestream media availabilities and announcements on YouTube.

In the interest of transparency, accountability, and public access to information, this motion calls on the Office of the Mayor to resume the practice of livestreaming press

conferences and other media availabilities. These livestreams should include the full Question and Answer period with media to ensure comprehensive public access.

Democracy functions best when residents have open and timely access to information that affects their city and daily lives. To further promote fairness and collaboration at City Hall, this motion also requests that all Members of Council and their staff be granted full access to attend these media availabilities.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM30.15

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-255349.pdf>)

Communications (City Council)

(May 20, 2025) E-mail from Daniel Tate, IntegrityTO (MM.New)

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/comm/communicationfile-190345.pdf>)

(May 21, 2025) E-mail from Nicole Corrado (MM.New)