

A Summary of the City's Donation Activity for 2025

Date: May 7, 2026

To: Executive Committee

From: Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the City's donation activity in 2025 as outlined in the annual reporting requirements of the City of Toronto Donation Policy.

For the 2025 fiscal year, 6,450 donations for which tax receipts were issued were received, with a total value of \$1.08 million. Donations were made by both individuals and organizations. While most donations came from individuals and organizations that live or operate within the City, donations were also received from other parts of the province and country, and from the United States of America.

This summary includes both cash and in-kind donations and only includes donations for which tax receipts were issued by the City. This summary does not include donations under \$20, gifts from foundations which do not qualify for a tax receipt, or in-kind donations where a tax receipt is not requested by the donor. Agencies and corporations that issue their own tax receipts are also not included in this summary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief of Staff recommends that:

1. Executive Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

In accordance with the Financial Control By-law, Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 71-19, donations exceeding \$50,000 may be accepted and spent with the appropriate authority and reported to Council through the Executive Committee.

For the 2025 fiscal year, donated funds have been made available to City Divisions and Agencies for designated programs and initiatives. Where donations exceed \$50,000 and are used to enhance a program or initiative, an in-year budget adjustment is made to increase both gross expenditures and donated revenues. In some cases, donated funds may be deferred for future use.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the information as presented in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on October 30, 2012, City Council adopted the "Amendment to the Donations to the City for Community Benefits Policy" (EX23.17) staff report. This report amended the donor requirements in the Donations to the City for Community Benefits Policy: <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2012.EX23.17>

At its meeting on May 26 and 27, 2008 City Council adopted the "Delegation of Authority to Receive and Spend Donations to the City for Community Benefits" (EX20.3) staff report, as amended. The report updated the Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits: <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/cc/decisions/2008-05-26-cc21-dd.pdf#page=7>.

COMMENTS

The Donations to the City of Toronto for Donation Policy (<https://www.toronto.ca/business-economy/partnerships-sponsorships-donations/donate/donations-to-the-city-of-toronto-for-community-benefits-policy/>) requires Strategic Partnerships to provide City Council with an annual report summarizing the City's donation activity.

1. Donations Process

Donations are accepted by the City through DonateTO (www.toronto.ca/donate), in person, by mail, ActiveNet (for commemorative tree & bench program), DocuPet (online pet licensing system) and e-transfers.

DonateTO is the City's corporate, online donor resource and donation platform that supports the donation transaction and the issuance of thank you emails and tax receipts as applicable. The online portal offers features such as ecards for in honour or in memory donations, links to applicable City policies, guidance on ways to give, listings of City programs and partners to allocate donations to, and intake for specific initiatives and emergencies.

2. 2025 Donations Summary

The City's donation activity for the 2025 fiscal year (Attachment 1 and Attachment 2) can be summarized as follows:

- a) Approximately \$1.08 million was received in 2025, from 6,450 donations.
- b) Most donations were received from individuals. While several individuals and organizations have donated on more than one occasion, donors usually give once to a particular cause.
- c) Most donations were received from Toronto residents and Toronto-based organizations. However, donations were also received from other parts of the province and the country, and from the United States of America.
- d) Of the 6,450 donations received in 2025, 89% (5,722) of donations were for \$100 or less.
- e) In 2025, the City received 16 donations valued at \$5,000 or more, including nine donations over \$10,000 each.
- f) Donations were designated to many City divisions and programs. Of the total number of donations received, 89% (5,718) were directed to Municipal Licensing & Standards (MLS), primarily for Toronto Animal Services.
- g) In terms of value of donations, Parks and Recreation, MLS, and the City Clerk's Office received approximately 95% of the \$ 1.08 million in tax receipted donations.

Table 1 shows the donation funds received each year over the last ten years, from 2016 to 2025.

Number and Value of Donations from 2016 to 2025¹		
Year	Number of Donations	Total Value of Donations
2025	6,450	\$1.08 Million
2024	6,370	\$1.06 Million
2023	7,618	\$1.59 Million
2022	7,507	\$1.15 Million
2021	8,423	\$1.55 Million
2020	9,651	\$2.30 Million
2019	7,439	\$1.31 Million
2018	7,855	\$1.10 Million
2017	7,820	\$1.08 Million
2016	7,325	\$1.35 Million

3. Privacy

Acknowledging the goodwill of Toronto residents and businesses is part of the City’s ongoing commitment to building donor stewardship and cultivating relationships. However, due to privacy and confidentiality requirements and considerations, the City is not authorized to disclose the names of donors nor amounts given without the express consent of the donors.

4. Continuous Improvement

Work continues to evolve the City’s financial donations platform, DonateTO, and associated processes. For example, in 2025, under the City of Toronto’s Financial Systems Transformation Program, the automation of donation posting on a daily basis was delivered through the integration between DonateTO (Salesforce) and the City’s S/4HANA financial system.

¹ Includes only donations that received a tax receipt.

CONTACT

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 2025 Divisional Summary of Tax-Receipted Donations
Attachment 2 - Number of 2025 Divisional Donations by Value Thresholds

Attachment 1 – 2025 Divisional Summary of Tax-Receipted Donations

Division	Cash Donations		In-Kind Donations	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
City Clerk's Office				
City of Toronto Archives	1	\$ 148	7	\$ 81,392
Merry Malvern Market	4	5,700	-	-
Economic Development & Culture				
Blackhurst Cultural Centre	2	275	-	-
IRSS Restoration of Identity Project and the Spirit Garden	1	100	-	-
Spadina Museum	1	75	-	-
Toronto History Museums Acquisition Fund	12	946	-	-
Environment, Climate & Forestry				
Urban Forestry	15	8,146	-	-
PollinateTO	5	288	-	-
Municipal Licensing & Standards				
Animal Services	5,262	328,889	-	-
All Animals Count General Fund	440	38,336	-	-
Spay - Neuter Your Pet Mobile Clinic	16	889	-	-
Parks & Recreation				
Commemorative Tree & Bench Program	376	524,984	-	-
High Park Zoo	14	665	-	-
Sakura Cherry Trees project	10	708	-	-
Scarborough Village Recreation Centre	1	1,000	-	-
Wabash Recreation Centre	1	200	-	-
Seniors Services and Long-Term Care				
Home/Program with Greatest Need	11	2,555	-	-
Various Homes	178	67,208	2	474
Strategic Partnerships				
Area of Greatest Need	42	6,099	-	-

Division	Cash Donations		In-Kind Donations	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Toronto Paramedic Services				
Safe City Program - Donate a Defibrillator	9	3,681	-	-
You are the Strongest Link - First Aid and CPR Courses	5	303	-	-
Toronto Police Service				
Police Dog Services Unit	1	1,107	-	-
Toronto Shelter & Support Services				
Housing and Shelter	1	2,025	-	-
Scarborough Village Residence Christmas	-	-	1	900
Cecil C.C.				
Children and Youth Fund	4	247	-	-
General Donations	28	10,156	-	-
Grand Total	6,440	\$ 1,004,730	10	\$ 82,766

Attachment 2 - Number of 2025 Divisional Donations by Select Value Thresholds

	\$20-\$24	\$25-\$100	\$101-\$500	\$501-\$1,000	\$1,001-\$5,000	\$5,001-\$10,000	>\$10,000	Total
City Clerk's Office			1	7	2		2	12
Economic Development & Culture		8	8					16
Environment, Climate & Forestry	1	8	9	1		1		20
Municipal Licensing & Standards	2,813	2,101	739	37	20	3	5	5,718
Parks & Recreation	2	18	14	216	150	2		402
Seniors Services and Long-Term Care	3	71	86	20	8	1	2	191
Strategic Partnerships	4	19	16	2	1			42
Toronto Paramedic Services	1	10	1		2			14
Toronto Police Service					1			1
Toronto Shelter & Support Services				1	1			2
Cecil C.C.	2	3	19	5	3			32
Total Number	2,826	2,238	893	289	188	7	9	6,450