



OFFICE OF THE  
**INTEGRITY  
COMMISSIONER**  
TORONTO

**Jonathan Batty**  
Integrity Commissioner  
375 University Ave., Suite 202  
Toronto, ON M5G 2J5  
416-397-7770 | [Jonathan.Batty@toronto.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Batty@toronto.ca)

October 31, 2024

Sent via Email (No Original to Follow): [councillor\\_pasternak@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca)

James Pasternak  
Councillor, York Centre  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen St. W., Suite A22  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Pasternak:

**Re: Sponsored attendance provided by the Strong Cities Network for your attendance at the Global Crises, Local Impacts: The Role of Canadian Cities in Maintaining Social Cohesion conference, May 30– 31, 2024 Montreal, QC**

Thank you for providing me with a Travel Declaration Form for the above-noted trip. I confirm that the information submitted is in compliance with section 4.2(6) of Article 4 (Gifts and Benefits) of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council, as travel was sponsored by the Strong Cities Network and you attended in your official capacity as a member of City Council.

I form this view based on my review of:

1. the Travel Declaration Form dated October 22, 2024;
2. a conference agenda and,
3. an email confirming accommodation from Caroline Wade dated May 3, 2024.

This letter, the Travel Declaration Form, and attached supporting material will be posted on the Integrity Commissioner's website, [toronto.ca/integrity](https://toronto.ca/integrity), in accordance with the *Code of Conduct for Members of Council*.

As you explained that your travel, ground transportation and sundry expenses were paid from your office budget, my Office has noted this on the Travel Declaration form. The expenses paid from your office budget will be documented on the City Clerk's website.

If you have any questions about the disclosure of gifts and benefits, please do not hesitate to contact this Office.

Yours truly,



Jonathan Batty  
Integrity Commissioner

Enclosures (3):      Travel Declaration Form  
                             Conference agenda  
                             Email dated May 3, 2024

Cc:                      Lesley Ruscica, Manager, Council & Support Services  
                             Mike Pacholok, Deputy City Clerk, Member Services & Program Support



Gift Disclosure Statement  
Travel Declaration

This form is used in the declaration of travel costs provided by a third party for Council Members in the performance of their duties if the value exceeds \$300, or if total value received from any one source during a calendar year exceeds \$300.

INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNCIL MEMBER

Council Member:	James Pasternak
Purpose of Trip:	Representing Toronto at Strong Cities Conference 'Global Crises - Local Harms: The Role of Canadian Cities in Maintaining Social Cohesion
Travel Destination:	Montreal, QC
Travel Dates:	May 30 - June 2
Additional Information:	
<b>Travel Expenses Covered by Third Party (please complete all that apply)</b>	
Sponsor of Travel:	Name: Strong Cities Network Type of Sponsor (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Other organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference Organizer
Registration Fees:	\$ 0.00
Travel:	\$1,126.88
Accommodation:	\$215.00 - paid by Strong Cities
Ground Transportation:	\$ 228.35
Per Diem/Sundry Expenses:	\$ 200.00
TOTAL:	\$ 1,770.23 \$ 215.00 X3
Expenses Paid from Council Business Travel Budget	\$ 0.00
Expenses Paid from Constituency Services & Office Budget or the annual operating budget for the Office of the Mayor	\$ 1,555.23 \$ 1,126.88 Travel 228.35 Ground Transportation 200.00 Per Diem/Sundry Expenses \$ 1,555.23 X3
Expenses paid from other City of Toronto sources	\$ 0.00 Source:

Please attach all pertinent information to this form including invitation letter from event organizer, copies of receipts, etc.)

Signed by Council Member:

Date: 10/22/24

The information is used to ensure compliance with the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and will be made public. The information will be provided to the Office of the City Clerk to report the donation as a Gift and Benefit. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Integrity Commissioner, 375 University Avenue, Suite 202, Toronto ON M5G 2J5, at 416-392-3826, or at [integrity@toronto.ca](mailto:integrity@toronto.ca).

### Important Information

This form will be publicly disclosed in accordance with Article IV of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council.

The Code of Conduct for Members of Council, Part IV, Gifts and Benefits, states that no Member shall accept a fee, advance, gift or personal benefit that is connected directly or indirectly with the performance of his or her duties of office, unless permitted by the exceptions listed. The following is listed as an exception:

- (f) food, lodging, transportation and entertainment provided by provincial, regional and local governments or political subdivisions of them, by the Federal government or by a foreign government within a foreign country, or by a conference, seminar or event organizer where the Member is either speaking or attending in an official capacity;

This form will serve as a disclosure statement required by the Code.

Upon receiving the Travel Declaration from the Council Member, the Integrity Commissioner shall review the form to determine whether the gift is permissible. In the event that the Integrity Commissioner makes that preliminary determination, he or she shall call upon the Member for clarification. Should the Integrity Commissioner determine that the gift was not permitted, he or she may direct the Member to reimburse the sponsor for the value.

Questions can be addressed to:

Integrity Commissioner  
416-392-3826  
[integrity@toronto.ca](mailto:integrity@toronto.ca)

Completed and signed form should be submitted to:

The Office of the Integrity Commissioner  
375 University Avenue, Suite 202  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2J5

### Authority & Guidelines

Part IV of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council. Available at [www.toronto.ca/integrity](http://www.toronto.ca/integrity).

## DRAFT AGENDA

### Global Crises - Local Harms

### *The Role of Canadian Cities in Maintaining Social Cohesion*

*A Strong Cities-North America Initiative*

McGill New Residence Hall  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada  
30 – 31 May 2024

#### Thursday, 30 May

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 08:00 – 08:45 | <b>Registration and Welcome Coffee</b>  |
| 08:45 – 09:00 | <b>Welcome Remarks &amp; Introduction to Strong Cities</b>  |
| 09:00 – 09:20 | <b>Opening Remarks</b>  |
| 09:20 – 10:15 | <b>Session 1: The Montreal Model – A City-Led Multidisciplinary Approach to Prevention in Times of Global Crises</b><br>This session will feature a conversation among a diversity of city officials and community-based partners in Montreal about efforts to prevent and respond to hate, extremism and polarisation, highlighting lessons learned for cities across Canada.  |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | <b>Session 2: Setting the Stage – The Local Threat Landscape in Municipalities in Times of Global Crisis</b><br>Online and offline hate, mis-/disinformation and other threats to social cohesion in Canadian urban and rural communities: the view from researchers/non-government experts.  |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | <b>Coffee Break</b>   |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | <b>Session 3: Conversation with Local Leaders – The State of Hate and Violent Extremism in Canadian Cities (followed by Q&amp;A)</b><br>Mayors and other local leaders from Canadian municipalities will share their perspectives on the threat landscape in their communities, including reflecting on the impact that global crises such as the Israel-Gaza conflict, migration, climate and rising levels of hate. |
- Local leaders will seek to answer these questions:
- What are the most pressing threats facing them?
  - What has their role been in prevention and response?
  - What prevention initiatives have initiated and/or continued to lead?



12:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Session 4: Human Rights-Centered City-Led Approaches to Preventing Hate, Extremism and Polarisation ( Followed by Q&amp;A)</b></p> <p>This session will explore the different ways in which local governments in Canada are addressing on- and offline hate and extremism and rising inter-communal tensions in their communities while safeguarding human rights and local democracy and what support they need. City officials will share examples of and lessons learned from relevant initiatives, e.g., those related to building trusted relationships with historically marginalized communities; leveraging existing service delivery; and adopting a multi-disciplinary approach to gang-motivated, gender-based and other forms of violence.</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Session 5: The View from Small/Rural/Remote Municipalities</b></p> <p>This session will focus on the role and specific needs of smaller municipalities and local governments in rural areas, which are often left behind when it comes to prevention infrastructure, programmatic funding, expertise, and attention from the central government despite often facing an equally serious on- and off-line threat environment.</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Breakout Groups: Countering Hate in Times of Global Crisis – The Role of Mayors and other Local Leaders and Cities</b></p> <p>Participants will discuss the following topics in breakout groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing tensions between migrants and long-time residents</li> <li>• Building local bridges in the face of increasing global tensions.</li> <li>• Balancing obligation to protect freedom of speech and assembly with responsibility for public safety and safeguarding local communities.</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:15	<b>Brief- Backs</b>
16:15 – 16:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16:30 – 17:30	<p><b>Session 6: Online Harms to Offline Hate – How Cities Can Mitigate the Threat</b></p> <p>Cities often do not fully understand the scope of online harms including their impact on offline hate and violence. While there is little they can do to control the nature and flow of online content, they are able to address the needs of groups targeted by hate and violent extremism. This session will allow cities to share their programs and other efforts to mitigate online harms. It will focus particularly on the development and deployment of digital literacy and critical thinking initiatives and other activities designed to equip consumers with the necessary knowledge, skills and tools to browse the internet safely.</p>
17:30 – 17:45	<b>Wrap-Up/Conclusions – Day 1</b>
19:00	<b>Reception for Mayors and other local leaders</b>

## Friday, 31 May

- 09:00 – 09:10 **Keynote: Women Local Leaders on the Frontlines of the Threat and Prevention and Response**
- 09:10 – 10:10 **Session 7: Local Government-Community Partnerships – The Foundation for Effective Prevention.**  
This session will focus on the role that mayors, local leaders and municipal governments play in building trusted relationships with communities, including faith, historically marginalised or other “hard to reach” ones, and how these relationships and partnerships have been and can be leveraged for effective hate and extremism prevention efforts.
- 10:10 – 10:20 **Keynote: The State of City-to City Cooperation in Canada: The View from the Canadian Centre for Safer Communities**
- 10:20 – 10:40 **Coffee Break**
- 10:40 – 11:40 **Breakout Groups: Developing and Operationalizing Whole- of-Society Approaches to Preventing Hate and Violent Extremism**  
Participants will discuss the following topics in breakout groups:
- Case studies and strategies for effective partnership between city officials, community organizations, law enforcement, and other stakeholders.
  - Discussing challenges and sharing good practices in fostering cohesive, multi-actor approaches
  - Developing and operationalizing multi-disciplinary, local prevention networks and programs: challenges and lessons learned.
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Brief-backs**
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Session 8: Strong Cities Canada – The Way Forward**  
Participants will discuss how Strong Cities and the Foundation for a Path Forward can support and amplify existing and catalyse new city-led prevention efforts across Canada. This includes by working with municipalities to develop localized strategies and programs to address all forms of hate, including antisemitism and Islamophobia, whether on- or offline and mitigate its real-world harms and by providing a platform for continuous sharing and learning among Canadian cities that is integrated into and can benefit from the wider Strong Cities Network.
- Participants will also provide input into the next phase of the Strong Cities-Foundation for a Path Forward, Canadian Heritage-support project that involves working with two municipalities in Canada to develop whole-of-city prevention strategies and programmes that are tailored to the needs and priorities of their communities.
- 13:00 – 13:15 **Conclusions/Way Forward**
- 13:15 – 14:00 **Lunch and Departure**

