## COUNCILLORS:

Given current operating conditions for Mississauga's cabbies, along with the sheer number of inactive plates, it behooves the City to provide some measure of relief with respect to this year's taxi renewal fees. After all, the current state of affairs was triggered by the actions of you and your colleagues, and not the Province. To ask Queen's Park to shoulder the financial burden with respect to reducing taxi licence fees is to deny reality surrounding why the industry is in such dire straits, and has been since TNC's entered the VFH industry.

Under the circumstances, surely, you and your colleagues can see your way clear to assisting a beleagured group of business operators, especially those whose plates are on the shelf.

PETER D. PELLIER

Please ensure this letter is directed to members of Council in its capacity as the Budget Committee.

## THE MAYOR & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

I am writing this letter as a member of Mississauga's beleagured taxi industry, who, since Uber's incursion, and eventual licensing, has been decimated. The pandemic merely exacerbated what became a most challenging operating environment - one that has resulted in both significant financial losses and an exponential rise in the number of inactive plates.

Given both Toronto and Brampton has seen fit to discount taxi licence renewal fees for 2021 out of c ompassion for the plight of their cabbies; given Mississauga has been a leader in the regulation of cabs for the past 50 years, it behooves members of Council to provide similar consideration. Does it not make eminent sense from a practical standpoint for the City to seek redress from the Province directly, rather than expect individual taxi operators to wait for assistance from Queen's Park - assistance which is unlikely to be forthcoming in the foreseeable future, if at all.

The 2020 taxi licence renewal fees for plate holders totalled \$655.00, including the taxi driver's licence fee. Given the precipitous drop in the level of business, this represents an onerous burden, particularly for those operators whose plates are on the shelf.

In discussing the staff recommendation with colleagues, to a person, they are outraged at the lack of consideration for their current financial plight, and justifiably so.

We implore you to show the leadership of which you are fully capable, by extending a discount on our licence renewal fees for the current year.

Thank you.

PETER D. PELLIER