

From: _____
To: [Mayor Bonnie Crombie](#); [Stephen Dasko](#); [Karen Ras](#); [Chris Fonseca](#); [John Kovac](#); [Carolyn Parrish](#); [Ron Starr](#); [Dipika Damerla](#); [Matt Mahoney](#); [Pat Saito](#); [Sue McFadden](#); [George Carlson](#)
Cc: [Geoff Wright](#); [Samuel Rogers](#); [Michael Foley](#); [Stephanie Smith](#)
Subject: 2021 TAXI LICENCE FEES - AN ADDENDUM
Date: Thursday, May 6, 2021 9:03:50 AM

THE MAYOR & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL,

CITY OF MISSISSAUGA.

As of May 4, 2021, fully 339 of the 706 plates issued by the City were on the shelf. That represents 48% of the total. It's hard to imagine a more accurate indicator of the taxi industry's precarious state, not to mention the severe hardship faced by drivers and owners. In light of the fact nearly one-half of the plates have been rendered inactive due to a lack of business, it is crystal clear Mississauga's cabbies are in dire straits.

It is interesting to note that in 2011, when the number of plates on the shelf was negligible, licence renewal fees totalled \$594.49 - \$365 for the owner; \$147 for the driver, and a lease filing fee of \$82.49. Should Council insist the 2020 fees be applied to the current year, the total amount owed, including a lease, would be \$746.25 - an increase of 25.5% over 10 years - notwithstanding earnings during that period have plummeted by an amount well in excess of 25.5%. In short, no longer is there any correlation between the health of the taxi industry and the amount paid in fees. Squeezing blood from a stone comes to mind. More to the point, the City`s cabbies would be hard put to pay such an amount.

In September 2020, there were 263 inactive plates. Eight months later, that numbers stands at 339, an increase of 28.9%. Quite frankly, the situation cries out for a restructuring of taxi licence fees commencing in 2022, in a way that reflects economic realities. The days of automatically increasing fees strictly on the basis of an inflation-related index are over. Failure to do so would merely exacerbate the hardship cabbies and their families currently face.

Thank you.

PETER D. PELLIER,