

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



<p>Date: April 25, 2023</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Shari Lichterman, CPA, CMA, Acting City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer</p>	<p>Meeting date: May 10, 2023</p>

Subject

Working Together – City and Sheridan College Memorandum of Understanding

Recommendation

That the Mayor and City Clerk or designate be authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between The Corporation of the City of Mississauga and The Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning and any necessary amendments and ancillary documents, as outlined in the Corporate Report entitled “Working Together – City and Sheridan College Memorandum of Understanding”, dated April 25, 2023, from the Acting City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer, in a form satisfactory to Legal Services.

Background

The City and Sheridan have a long shared history over 15 years focused on establishing Sheridan in the Mississauga downtown on City owned land. Sheridan's three campus buildings are now an integral part of the city's downtown urban fabric. Sheridan's site, in combination with the City's parkland, (Scholars' Green Park) in the city block has helped to fulfil the City's vision for the downtown.

Given the City's focus on fostering the innovation economy, in 2018 the City helped Sheridan to secure federal and provincial funding to establish Sheridan's support hub for entrepreneurs, EDGE. Sheridan reports that EDGE has supported 379 ventures to date and is now involved in the City's IDEA Innovation Hub (IDEA Mississauga) located at Square One. IDEA Mississauga partners with EDGE to share programming and events, cross promotion and marketing. The mutual support extends through to individual leadership roles on respective advisory committees.

The City benefits from Sheridan's work-integrated learning programs. Through the academic year, the City hires Sheridan Information Technology students through the cooperative learning program. Over 2021-2022, the City hired 35 Sheridan students to support the City's Information

Technology division. The City's Urban Design Section has collaborated with Sheridan on course-integrated learning. As an example, the College's School of Architecture design studio has collaborated on various initiatives including tactical urbanism and place-making. Additionally, Sheridan has worked with the City to deliver various public forums and events.

Comments

The Sheridan 2024 Strategic Plan sets the foundation to expand the nature and scope of working together with the City for mutual benefit and to strengthen work integrated learning to enable every employer to benefit from Sheridan expertise.

The City's Strategic Plan and implementing strategies, such as the Mississauga Economic Development Strategy, recommend harnessing the significant innovation potential of the College and the proximity of its downtown location as one of the City's three economic growth centres.

The positive working relationship between the City and the College continues to expand and lead to new initiatives. It is timely to consider formalizing this relationship to leverage current successes and look to future possibilities for collaboration to meet shared goals. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is the appropriate way to do this.

The MOU between the City and Sheridan will address such matters as:

- Shared goals to contribute to making Mississauga a better place to live, learn, work and prosper
- Strategic collaboration activities including:
 - Equity Diversity and Inclusion initiatives
 - Research and innovation
 - City capacity building
 - Experiential learning opportunities
 - Aligning the Sheridan curriculum with local economy needs
 - Entrepreneur support
 - Coordinated international industry and business engagement
 - Joint advocacy on shared priorities
 - Student engagement in the city
 - Showcasing thought leaders and experts
- Operational collaborations to address local and operation matters within the "neighbourhood" including the student experience, transit, housing, noise, health and safety, fire and enforcement
- Roles and responsibilities related to the MOU implementation over a five-year renewable period, working committees or "tables" with City and Sheridan representatives to

address strategic and operational collaborations, and regular meetings and reporting to Council.

Two working tables will be established:

- **The Strategic Collaborations Table:** Core membership will include City directors and members of the Leadership Team to discuss the items listed above and to develop new opportunities for partnership and growth;
- **The Operational Collaborations Table:** Core membership will include the same directors as noted for the Strategic Collaborations Table in addition to City and Sheridan directors as needed to address student experience, transit, housing, noise, health and safety, fire and enforcement.

These two tables will assist Sheridan and the City to advance the goals and ideals of the MOU, while managing any day to day issues that may arise in relation to the downtown Mississauga campus.

Strategic Plan

The proposed MOU formalizes and enhances the City's relationship with Sheridan, helping the City to achieve the Strategic Plan's transformative actions around fueling the innovation economy and retaining and attracting youth, aligned with the Prosper and Belong pillars. It is the first step in a strengthened partnership between the City of Mississauga and Sheridan College.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Conclusion

The City and Sheridan have achieved many successes and launched new initiatives over the past number of years. Sheridan is an important component of the city's social, economic and urban landscape. It is appropriate to formalize the City's relationship with Sheridan through a MOU to enable a coordinated and pro-active collaborative future.



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