

Mississauga's Mayor and Council Members

February 06, 2023

Dear Mayor Crombie and Councillors,

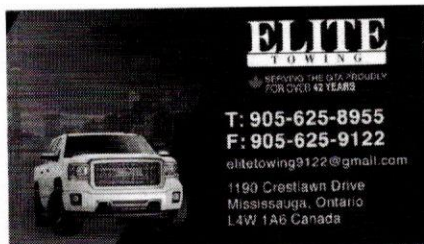
The Mississauga Towing Industry has been made aware of a report on the General Committee agenda for February 8, 2023, requesting that the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) be disbanded in light of the passage of the Provincial Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act. We sincerely request that Council vote against that suggestion.

TIAC has been operational since about 2009. Towing industry representatives have aided Mississauga citizens after stressful automobile accidents and have contributed significantly to the City's property and business taxes.

We have valued the chance to meet every two months to address shared concerns and a range of topics impacting our industry's professional functioning. We suggested permission forms, procedures, and services that were implemented by Council and significantly enhanced customer experiences.

The significant challenges impacting our customers and industry that led to the formation of the committee were identical to the violence and corrupt practices that prompted the provincial task force and the creation of the new Act. The introduction of the Towing Committee, which included Council members, allowed us to gradually reduce corrupt practises to the point that our city became a model in the business. In reality, Mississauga City staff members were asked to join in the provincial discussions that resulted in the present Act.

The Act is still in its early phases, and it includes a trial project that allows just specific towing businesses to serve important routes in the GTA. Changes may occur as the Act's implementation proceeds. TIAC provided written comments at different phases of the Act, which were accepted by Council and sent to the Province. We would prefer to maintain our capacity to consult and react as a group.



The Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act makes no provision for charging fees for the wide variety of services provided by our industry. Meeting on a regular basis enables TIAC to develop recommendations, allowing Council to enact bylaws governing standard fees for various services across the city. Meeting with committee members on a regular basis fosters the notion that we are an important element of our city's economy.

We encourage Council to continue working with the Towing Industry Advisory Committee in order to reinforce best practices and the existing high level of collaboration. It will also reassure the towing industry that Council values our thoughts and services.

Sincerely,

Muhammad Akram

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muhammad Akram", written over a thin vertical line.