City of Mississauga

Agenda



Governance Committee

Date: January 29, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Council Chambers, Civic Centre, 2nd Floor

300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1

and Online Video Conference

Members Mayor (VACANT)

Councillor Joe Horneck
Councillor Dipika Damerla
Councillor Matt Mahoney
Councillor Brad Butt

Harminder Dhillon Jennifer Green Frank

18.1



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA
BY-LAW NUMBER 0.205-7-201

A by-law to authorize the implementation of a City of Mississauga Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the 2022-2026 Term of Council

WHEREAS section 88.11(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, provides that a municipal council may pass a by-law authorizing the payment of rebates to individuals who make contributions to candidates for office on the municipal council;

AND WHEREAS section 88.11(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act 1996*, provides that the by-law enacted according to 88.11(1) shall establish the conditions under which an individual is entitled to a rebate;

CITY CLERK OBLIGATIONS

- 9. The City Clerk shall establish forms and procedures for the administration of the municipal campaign contribution rebate program which shall include but not be limited to the timelines for when Candidates shall register with the City Clerk to be eligible for participating in the rebate program.
- 10. The City Clerk may delegate any and all duties available according to this By-law.

ENACTED and PASSED this 29th day of September , 2021.

Approved by Legal Services City Solicitor City of Mississauga

R. Genina

Robert Genoway

Date: September 21, 2021

File: LA.25-21-144

Bornie Crombie

MAYOR

CLERK

ELIGIBILITY FOR A REBATE

- In order to qualify for a rebate, an individual who makes a contribution to a Candidate must:
 - (a) be a Canadian citizen;
 - (b) be at least 18 years of age;
 - (c) not be prohibited from voting according to subsection 17(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act*, 1996;
 - (d) contribute between the time the Applicable Candidate files their nomination and the day the Applicable Candidate's campaign period ends;
 - (e) contribute to an Applicable Candidate who is registered in the rebate program;
 - (f) comply with contribution rules specified in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996; and
 - (g) comply with the rebate program rules as specified by the City Clerk.

SCHEDULE "A"

CALCULATION OF REBATE

Rebates for contributions made to a Candidate shall be calculated as follows:

- 1. A minimum contribution of \$100.00 made in the form specified by the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* is required to be eligible for a rebate.
- The maximum rebate a contributor may receive is \$1,500.00.
- 3. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is \$300.00 or less, the maximum rebate to be paid to the contributor is 75% of that total.
- 4. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is more than \$300 00 but not more than \$1,000.00, the rebate to be paid to the contributor is \$225.00 plus 50% of the difference between \$300.00 and the remainder of the contribution total.
- 5. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is more than \$1,000.00, the maximum rebate that will be paid to the contributor is the lesser of:
 - (i) \$575.00 plus 33.33% of the contribution amount that is over \$1,000; or
 - (ii) \$1,500.00
- 6. If a contributor makes multiple donations of less than the minimum requirement of \$100.00, but the total contribution for the multiple donations is equal to or greater than the \$100.00 minimum, the contributions are ineligible for rebate.

City of Mississauga **Corporate Report**



Date: 2019/01/15 Originator's files:

Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Meeting date: 2019/01/30

Subject

2018 City of Mississauga Municipal Election - New Initiatives and Election Summary

Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

On May 24, 2017, Council passed By-law 0067-2017 which introduced the Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the 2018 municipal election (the "Rebate Program"). The Rebate Program enables the City Clerk to reimburse monetary contributions made to Council candidates by residents of Mississauga. An individual who made campaign contributions of \$25 or more can receive 25% of their total contribution up to a maximum of \$150.

The interest in the Rebate Program was very high for the 2018 Election. Out of the 78 eligible candidates, 75 candidates are currently enrolled in the Rebate Program. The Rebate Program is meant to increase political engagement while at the same time alleviating some of the financial burden for candidates. The rebates will be processed after July 2019 when the compliance audit period for candidates has ended.

City of Mississauga

Corporate Report



Date: May 14, 2021

To: Chair and Members of Budget Committee

From: Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City

Clerk

Originator's files:

Meeting date: June 21, 2021

Subject

City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for 2022 Election

Recommendation

1. That the Corporate Report dated May 14, 2021 from the Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk titled City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (rebate program) for 2022 Election be received.

7.4

Conclusion

The rebate program was implemented for the 2018 election at a cost of \$35,700. It is estimated that with the proposed changes the cost of the rebate program may grow to approximately \$100,000 based on 2018 contributions. Staff are seeking direction on the rebate formula to be used for the 2022 Municipal Election. Once approved, staff will prepare a by-law to authorize implementation of the rebate program formula.

City of Mississauga

Minutes

Approved September 15, 2021



Council

Date: June 30, 2021 Time: 9:34 AM

Location: Online Video Conference

Members Mayor Bonnie Crombie

Councillor Stephen Dasko Ward 1 Councillor Karen Ras Ward 2 Councillor Chris Fonseca Ward 3 Councillor John Kovac Ward 4 Councillor Carolyn Parrish Ward 5 Councillor Ron Starr Ward 6 Councillor Dipika Damerla Ward 7 Councillor Matt Mahoney Ward 8 Councillor Pat Saito Ward 9 Councillor Sue McFadden Ward 10 Councillor George Carlson Ward 11

BC-0024-2021

- That the Corporate Report dated May 14, 2021 from the Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk titled City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (rebate program) for 2022 Election be received.
- 2. That the minimum contribution eligible for a rebate be set to \$100 and that the maximum rebate that an eligible contributor can receive is \$1500, utilizing the City of Toronto's Rebate formula.
- 3. That a by-law be established to authorize the formula for the rebate program.
- 4. That, once a by-law is passed establishing the formula for the rebate program, the appropriate amount of funds be transferred from the Election Reserve 30135 into the Election Cost Centre 22450 to cover the cost of the rebate program going forward.

City of Mississauga

Agenda



POST-MEETING General Committee

Date: October 04, 2023

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Council Chambers, Civic Centre, 2nd Floor

300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1

and Online Video Conference

Members Mayor Bonnie Crombie

Councillor Stephen Dasko

Councillor Alvin Tedjo

Councillor Chris Fonseca

Councillor John Kovac

Councillor Carolyn Parrish

Councillor Joe Horneck

Councillor Dipika Damerla

Councillor Matt Mahoney

Councillor Martin Reid

Councillor Sue McFadden

Councillor Brad Butt

2022 Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

In 2021, Council approved a new Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (Rebate Program) by-law and formula, attached as Appendix 1. This meant that eligible individuals who contributed a minimum of \$100 to candidates running for a seat on Council could receive a rebate between \$75 and \$1,500 depending on the total contribution amount.

For the 2022 Election, electronic rebate receipts were introduced for candidates participating in the Rebate Program. Electronic receipts gave candidates the option to enter contribution information into CFS and issue a rebate receipt electronically to the contributor. Hard copy receipts were also available.

Of the 68 candidates running for a seat on council, 49 participated in the Rebate Program. To date, a total of approximately \$711,000 in rebates has been paid to contributors. In 2018, just under \$36,000 in rebates was paid out. The increase in rebate payouts is because:

- The Rebate Program was expanded to include all eligible contributors in Ontario, not just Mississauga residents as it was in 2018
- The maximum rebate a contributor could receive was increased from \$150 in 2018 to \$1,500 in 2022

10.3 General Committee 2023/09/12 13

 The formula to calculate a rebate was changed to allow a contributor to receive a rebate of up to 75% of their contribution whereas in 2018 contributors could only receive a rebate of 25% for their contribution

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit

Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk read questions submitted by Rahul Mehta, Resident, Founder of Sustainable Mississauga and Co-founder, Stop Sprawl Peel in relation to the Fireworks By-law Review report. Georgios Fthenos, Director of Enforcement responded to the questions with respect to enforcement measures and cost recovery and noted he would provide a written response directly to Mr. Mehta. In response to Councillor Reid, Mr. Fthenos spoke to how data will be applied to improve enforcement measures.

Ms. Rusnov read the questions submitted by Jonathan Giggs, resident with respect to the 2022 City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information report. Councillor Horneck noted comments from some residents in Ward 6. No further discussion took place.

To: jonathangiggs

Cc: Election Office <

Subject: RE: General Committee - October 4, 2023

Hello Jonathan,

Thank you for your inquiry. I have provided some information in response to your questions in red below.

Regards, Laura



Laura Wilson

Manager, Elections Administration and Vital Statistics
T 905-615-3389
Election.Office@mississauga.ca
Legislative Services Division
Corporate Services Department

My question:

To date, a total of approximately \$711,000 in rebates has been paid to contributors. In 2018, just under \$36,000 in rebates was paid out. The increase in rebate payouts is because:

- The Rebate Program was expanded to include all eligible contributors in Ontario, not just Mississauga residents as it was in 2018
- The maximum rebate a contributor could receive was increased from \$150 in 2018 to \$1,500 in 2022

This is correct. In 2021 Council passed by-law 0205-2021 implementing a new rebate program formula which included the changes you have noted above.

Should eligible contributors be restricted to residents of Mississauga to negate the outside influence of others, most notably developers who live elsewhere, in our election?

Should the maximum rebate be reduced?

Unfortunately, I cannot provide an answer to these last two questions. They were read to General Committee on October 4, 2023, however, direction to make changes to the rebate program eligibility requirements and formula was not provided to staff. Minutes of the meeting will be posted by the Legislative Coordinator shortly. If you wish to listen to Public Question Period for the October 4 meeting, please visit the Agenda and click on Item 8 – Public Question Period.

Jonathan Giggs

RE: Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program



Hi Jonathan,

Approximately \$370,000 was paid to non-Mississauga residents.

Regards,



Gus Mangos

Supervisor, Elections Logistics T 905-615-3389

Election.Office@mississauga.ca

https://mississaugavotes.ca/

<u>City of Mississauga</u> | Corporate Services Department, Legislative Services Division

From: jonathangiggs@bell.net < jonathangiggs@bell.net >



Fri 2024-01-26 4:25 PM

- •\$370,000 paid to non-Mississauga residents
- •\$711,000 paid in rebates
- •\$100,000 was anticipated amount

The City of Mississauga Municipal Election Campaign Rebate program has not achieved its goals and has cost far more than anticipated.