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City of Mississauga 300 City Centre Drive MISSISSAUGA ON L5B 3C1 bradbutt.ca

## Motion - Mississauga Hospital Local Share

Moved by: Councillor Brad Butt

Seconded by: Councillor and Deputy Mayor Matt Mahoney

WHEREAS the provincial government has commenced rebuilding the Mississauga Hospital at The Queensway and Hurontario locations;

AND WHEREAS the new hospital will be the largest in Ontario, serving a regional population of over 1.7 million people, and will include a number of specialization areas that will draw people from across the province;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care instituted a policy in the late 1980s to require local communities, including municipalities, to pay a local share of up to 25% of the entire cost of the project including 10% for construction costs;

AND WHEREAS this local share requirement is not in legislation;

AND WHEREAS the City of Toronto is exempt from the local share, including at the recently funded Queensway Health Centre in Etobicoke, just across the border from Mississauga in Toronto:

AND WHEREAS the City has been asked to contribute \$450 million as part of the \$1.5 billion local share amount expected by the province for the new hospital;

AND WHEREAS the \$1.5 billion local share is the largest requested of any community in Ontario:

AND WHEREAS the \$450 million local share requested of the City of Mississauga is 42% higher than the average recent local share request approved by other municipalities in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has sole jurisdiction for healthcare, and receives annual Health Transfer payments from the federal government, which have increased 212% since 2005 while Ontario healthcare expenditures have only risen by 158% in that time;

AND WHEREAS the property tax is the least efficient tax to pay for healthcare;

AND WHEREAS property tax increases dramatically affect those on fixed or low incomes in difficult economic times;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has access to a host of revenue tools including income taxes, consumption taxes and other fees, and can enact new taxes as necessary;

AND WHEREAS municipalities primarily have access to the property tax;

AND WHEREAS to fund \$450 million, the City of Mississauga would have to enact a levy increase on the property tax bill for the next 5 years, and those increases would remain in the levy for up to 20 years to repay the debt relating to the contribution, significantly adding to the property tax burden of residential and business property taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga is currently facing a host of financial pressures, including building new fire stations to keep up with population growth; maintaining and building new stormwater infrastructure to prepare for historic flooding; building a new transit garage (\$500 million+); and taking on the operation of the Hurontario LRT (roughly \$65 million per year);

AND WHEREAS the proposed local share of \$450 million represents 66% of the 2024 net operating budget for the City of Mississauga;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga, as part of the Region of Peel, is currently underfunded by \$868 million compared to other regions in the province - \$575 per person on an annual basis;

AND WHEREAS according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), municipalities, including Mississauga are currently subsidizing the provincial government in the amount of \$4 billion per year;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga is one of the most efficiently and best operated cities in Canada, earning a Triple A credit rating for 21 straight years, along with other awards for strong financial performance:

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. Council declines the contribution request; and
- 2. As this is a regional hospital, Mississauga suggests the province waive the requirement for the City of Mississauga to contribute to the local share, and the province contribute a larger amount to this project; and
- 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier; the Ministers of Health, Long-Term Care and Municipal Affairs; and all Mississauga MPPs; and
- 4. The City of Mississauga engage in a public awareness and information campaign to educate residents and businesses on Mississauga's position.

Brad Butt, Councillor, Ward 11