



Concerns Regarding the Process & Conduct Surrounding the March 4, 2026, General Committee Meeting

March 5, 2026

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

Re: Concerns Regarding the Process and Conduct Surrounding the March 4, 2026 General Committee Meeting (Item 10.1 – Options for Value-for-Money Audits)

We are writing to express serious concerns regarding the process, communication, and conduct surrounding the March 4, 2026, General Committee meeting, during which Council considered Item 10.1, *Options for Value-for-Money Audits*. These concerns relate not only to the substance of the report but also to broader issues of transparency, accountability, and public engagement in the City of Mississauga.

At the meeting, Council reviewed a corporate report outlining four potential approaches to municipal oversight. The request for an Independent Auditor General originated with residents, who raised the issue during the 2026 Budget consultations. The staff report represented the first formal opportunity for Council to consider this matter.

Despite sustained public interest, most residents were unaware that staff had been directed to prepare a report or that it would be presented at General Committee. There was almost no advance communication between Councillors and their residents. This lack of communication significantly limited the ability of residents to participate meaningfully in a matter they themselves had initiated.

The report was released on Thursday, February 26, 2026, with a registration deadline of Monday, March 2, leaving residents only a single weekend to review the material, conduct research, and prepare their feedback.

Residents also observed that the report lacked clarity and did not provide a strong analytical foundation, requiring additional time to locate background information and verify key claims. Compressed timelines, limited communication, and the quality of the report constrained the ability of many residents to participate in a democratic process on an issue of significant public interest.

Residents who were able to participate invested considerable effort in preparing thoughtful, well-researched submissions. In response to these letters, deputations, and questions, the Mayor characterized them as ***complainers***.

Residents interpreted these remarks as dismissive of their contributions to public engagement. Many expressed concern that such comments undermine the role of residents in municipal oversight and discourage civic participation.

The events surrounding this report reflect broader concerns about the state of municipal governance in Mississauga. Residents report increasing difficulty engaging with some members of Council, including instances where Councillors decline to respond to constituents who raise concerns, disagree with them, or ask detailed questions about City operations.

A healthy democracy requires elected officials to welcome scrutiny, respond to constituents, and uphold transparency as a core value. When residents are discouraged from participating—or when their participation is met with disregard—trust in municipal institutions erodes.

To restore public confidence, we urge Council to strengthen independent oversight by:

- establishing an Independent Auditor General
- improving communication practices to ensure residents receive timely, accessible information
- removing unnecessary barriers to public participation, including compressed timelines and limited notice
- and fostering a culture of respect, responsiveness, and accountability in interactions with residents

Residents remain committed to constructive engagement and to working collaboratively with Council to strengthen municipal governance in Mississauga.

We look forward to your response and to seeing meaningful improvements in the City's approach to transparency, accountability, and public engagement.

Respectfully,
MIRANET Executive
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