



Hazel McCallion, C.M., LL.D.

Mayor's Update



To Businesses - Spring 2011

In the last year Mississauga has been recognized worldwide for our cultural, economic and academic resources. Our City has been honoured as one of "Canada's Best Locations" for industrial development projects; our Economic Development Office was featured as one of the "Top Ten Canadian Economic Development Groups" in the country and we placed fourth in a list of "Large Cities of the Future" across North and South America.

With the launch of our 10-year Economic Development Strategy we expect these accolades to continue. The Strategy is our guide to providing the right resources and responding to trends in order to remain competitive and attractive on a global scale. Successful cities look beyond traditional approaches to attract and retain investment. That is why we worked extensively with the Mississauga business community in developing this strategy. It focuses on ways to develop talent, attract innovative business, meet employment needs, strengthen arts and culture and create partnerships for innovation throughout the City.

Similar to other city building plans, the recommended action items from this strategy are built into our City's Business Plan and Budget. The Business Plan and Budget outlines how and where we will put our resources to respond to your needs and includes some exciting new initiatives for 2011. In June, we will open Mississauga Celebration Square, an outdoor event venue that will host year-round community activities. In order to meet the growing demand for moving people quickly and efficiently within our City we are adding 30,000 additional transit service hours and we have broken

ground on our Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor. We are relocating and expanding three fire stations that will allow for quicker response to emergency calls, and with the approval of our Cycling Master Plan, we expect to introduce approximately 30 kilometres of new cycling routes per year.

This year we will also see the completion of 138 projects funded through the Federal and Provincial Governments' Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF) and Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RIInC) programs. These programs were a strategic opportunity that allowed us to achieve multiple goals - economic stimulation, job creation, investment in infrastructure and city building. The construction work in our city created 1,463 jobs with expenditures of close to \$170 million.

2011 Budget

As you are aware, the cost to provide services is increasing. We are experiencing significant declines in revenue and we face a number of rising uncontrollable costs, like fuel, utilities and contractual services.

The reality is that outside of the property taxes we have limited funding options. Only 44 per cent of City revenues come from other sources such as development revenues, transit fares and recreation and parks fees and these revenues have declined due to the economic downturn. This puts additional stress on our budget.

Through the budget process we were able to identify more than \$8 million in efficiencies and reductions in relation to the final budget. We looked at each budget item to make sure that we were being fair and responsible. For the second year in a row, Council chose not

to take an increase in wages, because it's the right thing to do.

The final budget includes a City tax increase of 0.9 per cent on the total property tax bill. Combined with the Region of Peel increase, Mississauga businesses will see a 1.6 per cent increase on their total tax bill, before any changes in assessment.

I want you to know that my colleagues on Council and I are working hard to put pressure on the Federal and Provincial Governments to provide more financial support to municipalities. We need long-term sustainable funding solutions to be able to maintain our roads, bridges, libraries, community centres and transit service. Sustainable funding will also allow us to maintain existing service levels and keep tax rates low.

At the same time I am taking every opportunity to talk about the initiatives underway in Mississauga to support and encourage future growth. Mississauga's business community has always been key to our success. Now is the time to build on our success and keep up our momentum.

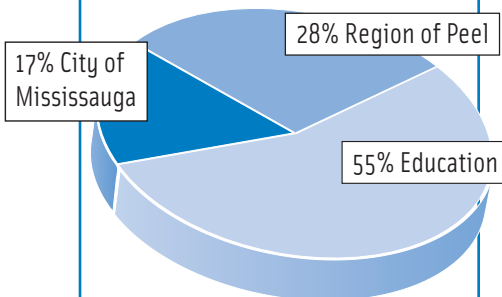
We are committed to providing good value for our taxpayers as we continue to build a vibrant city where people choose to be and businesses thrive. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us by calling 3-1-1 (or 905-615-4311 outside city limits).

Hazel McCallion, C.M., LL.D.
Mayor

Breakdown of Your Tax Bill

Your property taxes pay for City of Mississauga services, Region of Peel services and provincial education costs.

Only 17% of your taxes go to the City of Mississauga.



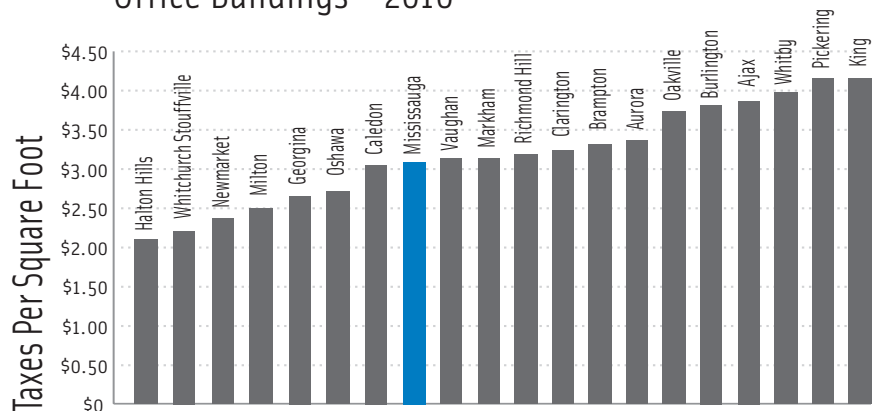
Commercial Tax Bill Breakdown

Highlights of the 2011-2014 Business Plan and Budget are available at

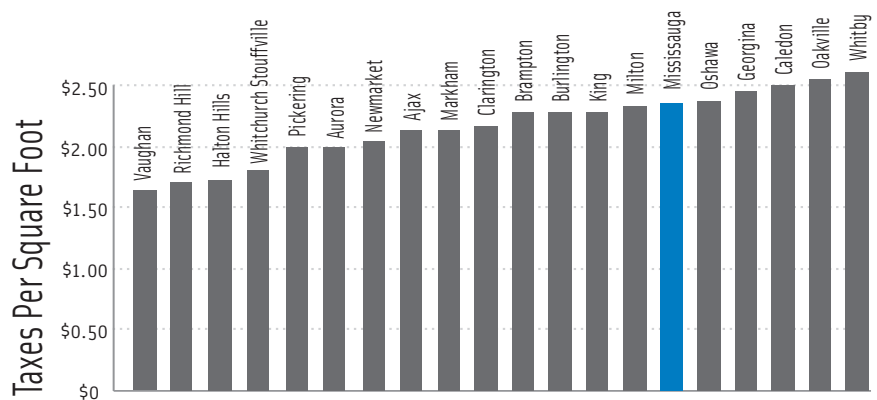
www.mississauga.ca/finance

2011 Municipal Taxes Across the GTA

Office Buildings – 2010



Standard Industrial – 2010



Source: BMA Management Consulting Inc.

2011 Commercial Tax Impact

Assessment Value	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
City	\$108 0.9%	\$216 0.9%	\$431 0.9%	\$1,078 0.9%
Region	\$84 0.7%	\$169 0.7%	\$338 0.7%	\$846 0.7%
Education	- 0.0%	- 0.0%	- 0.0%	- 0.0%
Total	\$192 1.6%	\$385 1.6%	\$769 1.6%	\$1,924 1.6%

Does not include capping calculations

Your 2011 commercial tax bill consists of three separate components which are calculated individually. The City portion increased by 5.8 percent and the Region's portion increased by 2.7 percent and there was no change in the education portion.

If you compare your 2010 tax bill to your 2011 tax bill, you will see that your total commercial tax bill has increased overall by 1.6 percent.

