

**DATE:** June 7, 2004

**TO:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**Meeting date: June 9, 2004**

**FROM:** Janice M. Baker CA, Acting City Manager

**SUBJECT:** **A plan to take significant steps towards separation from the Region of Peel**

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**ORIGIN:** City Manager's Office

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Mississauga has resolved to become a Separated City which would remove it from the current Regional government structure and have one-tier government. Core reasons for this declaration are:

- Mississauga taxpayers are currently subsidizing Brampton and Caledon for programs delivered by the Region of Peel
- Duplication and overlap of services that exist between the City and the Region is additional bureaucracy and wasteful of Mississauga taxes
- Representation of the taxpayers of Mississauga at the regional level is not proportionate to the assessment base or population

The citizens of Mississauga have demonstrated their overwhelming support through the 'One City One Voice Campaign', where 99 percent of all pledged votes were supportive and a statistically valid independent survey indicated 71 percent support, 12 percent were opposed and 18 percent offered no opinion.

**COMMENTS:** Achieving full independence for Mississauga could be implemented by making critical changes in the short term which would ultimately

lead to a Separated City. Staff have prepared a plan that would address the three main issues but allow a Services Board or a Regional Council to continue providing some services where no overlap exists. A copy of this plan is attached as Appendix A. The highlights of the plan are:

- Implementation of a revised cost sharing model where costs are allocated based on use
- The transfer of funding and delivery of local programs to the member municipalities
- The creation of a services board(s), or continue with a Regional Council model, for certain programs
- Implementation of a representation-by-population model

To allow implementation prior to the next municipal election, approval by the Province would be required no later than the fall of 2004.

**CONCLUSION:**

The citizens of Mississauga have strongly supported the goal to become separate from the Region of Peel. Staff have drafted a plan that will allow significant first steps towards this goal to happen prior to the next municipal election. It will be important to approach the Province formally as soon as possible to allow for timely implementation.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report dated June 7, 2004 from the Acting City Manager, detailing a plan to take significant steps towards separation from the Region of Peel be approved.
2. That the Mayor be directed to meet with the Premier of The Province of Ontario as soon as possible to present the plan.
3. That copies of the plan be distributed to The Region of Peel, Mississauga based Members of the Provincial Parliament, The minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and other key stakeholders affected.

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Janice M. Baker CA,  
Acting City Manager