

# 2016 TORONTO CITY BUDGET

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Engagement Tool Kit

# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- What is the budget engagement process?
- What is in Toronto's 2016 city budget?
- Next steps: What can you do now?



# Welcome and introductions

- Welcome to the 2016 Budget Training Workshop
- What brought you here today?
- What do you expect to get from this training?
- What is your ward and who is your councillor?
- What do you want to know about how the City works?
- How comfortable are you speaking in public?

# Why 2016 budget should have invest in a poverty reduction strategy?

- Growing poverty and income inequality need to be addressed
- A lot of marginalized groups are falling behind
- Poverty is concentrated in the inner suburbs, where many marginalized groups live in and services are harder to access
- The City's Poverty Reduction Strategy was community driven- deserves on-going investment in the budget
- The City has committed to a collaborative, community-driven process to end poverty in Toronto

# The City's vision for poverty reduction

## Vision

- a poverty reduction strategy that will address the issues, create solutions, drive systemic change.

## Plan

- Over the summer and early fall of 2015, staff will finalize the strategy by determining how the City and its partners can implement these actions.

## By 2035

- Toronto is a city with opportunities for all, and a leader in the collective pursuit of justice, fairness and equity. Renowned as a place where everyone has access to good jobs, adequate income, stable housing, affordable transportation, nutritious food, and supportive services.

# Toronto's Poverty Reduction Strategy

## Housing Stability

- The city needs more quality affordable housing so that low-income individuals and families do not need to sacrifice basic needs to live in decent conditions.

## Access to Services

- Not all residents find the services they need when they need them; the City can do more to make services available and effective.

## Transportation

- Public transit needs to be affordable and reliable; it needs to take residents to opportunities and bring opportunities to neighbourhoods.

## Food Access

- Torontonians, especially in many low-income communities, need better access to affordable, nutritious food.

## Quality Jobs and Living Wages

- Toronto cannot achieve its vision of being an equitable and inclusive city while so many residents are unable to find quality jobs

# Poverty Reduction Costs

- Housing – \$34.8M
  - Supportive housing
  - Maintenance
  - Affordable homes
- Childcare - \$9.1M
  - New spaces
  - Subsidies
- Transit - \$17.4M
  - Reverse fair hike
- Services \$14.1
  - Recreation, supports
- **Total – \$75.4 M**

54 Civic Leaders from:



# Things you can do to shape 2016 Budget

- Contact your Councillor: phone call, e-mail, visit, town hall
- On-line petition: Sign. Share, Promote  
(<http://togethertoronto.ca/campaigns/poverty-reduction>)
- Depute at city budget meetings
- Use social media: tweet, #payforstuff
- Organize: join C2C's organizing, sign up for updates  
([www.povertyreductionto.ca](http://www.povertyreductionto.ca))

# Contact your Councillor

## Find out who your councillor is

- Find out which Ward you live in by entering your address here: <http://bit.ly/Toward>
- Find the contact information for your councillor and their staff by clicking on your ward here:

If you are unsure which ward you live in, you can look it up by typing your address below:

Street Number:

340

Street Name:

harbord

Ward Lookup

Your ward is [Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina](#)

CLICK HERE

# Contact your Councillor

## Tips

- Be as clear as possible
- You may not get through to your councillor, but talking to their staff is effective
- One call can be very effective!
- Number speaks volume!



# Know your councillor

- It's on the web
  - Who are they
  - What did they do before
  - What do they care about
  - Who do they represent
- Which ones can you get
- How can you get them

**Council Members**

**Councillor Justin Di Ciano**

**Profile: Ward 5 Etobicoke Lakeshore**



**Toronto City Hall**  
100 Queen Street West, Suite C51  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Phone: 416-392-4040  
[Councillor\\_DiCiano@toronto.ca](mailto:Councillor_DiCiano@toronto.ca)

**Staff**

<b>Executive Assistant</b> Jacqueline Czajka <a href="mailto:jackie.czajka@toronto.ca">jackie.czajka@toronto.ca</a>	<b>Constituency Assistant</b> Mary Campbell <a href="mailto:mary.campbell@toronto.ca">mary.campbell@toronto.ca</a>
<b>Administrative Assistant</b> Valerie Augustine <a href="mailto:valerie.augustine@toronto.ca">valerie.augustine@toronto.ca</a>	

**Profile**  
Justin Di Ciano was elected City Councillor for Ward 5 on October 27<sup>th</sup> 2014. Justin has lived in the Etobicoke-Lakeshore community his entire adult life. Justin lives with his wife Kristen and their two young children Makayla and Julien. Prior to being elected to office, Justin owned and operated businesses in the financial, medical and commercial real estate industries. In 2009, Justin was recognized as one of the Top 40 Under 40 Italian-Canadians in Canada by the Italian Canadian Chamber of Commerce for his efforts in business and leadership in his community. Justin's extensive philanthropic initiatives include support for many of Canada's most established charities and educational institutions. Mr. Di Ciano is a Social Entrepreneur with the PACT Urban Peace Program, an award winning charity that in Partnership with the TDSB works with inner city youth across Toronto. As a long standing member of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke, Justin is Chair of Toronto Ribfest Food & Music Festival, one of Canada's largest annual fundraisers. Justin is also the co-founder of the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment, a privately funded teaching and training centre focusing on education, nutrition and real-world job training for underprivileged youth in Etobicoke.

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**Councillor Di Ciano's committee, agency and corporation appointments**

- [Etobicoke York Community Council](#)
- [Civic Appointments Committee](#)
- [Planning and Growth Management Committee, Vice Chair](#)
- [Affordable Housing Committee](#)
- [Budget Committee](#)
- [Metro Toronto Pension Plan Board of Trustees](#)
- [Metro Toronto Police Benefit Fund – Board of Trustees](#)

**External Boards and Committees**

- [Exhibition Place Board of Governors](#)
- [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority](#)
- [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Etobicoke-Mimico Watersheds Coalition](#)

**Related Links**

- [Standards of Conduct for Members of Council](#)
- [Integrity Commissioner](#)
- [Lobbyist Registrar](#)
- [City Clerk's Office](#)

# Make a deputation



- A **deputation or speech** is a form of public statement that argues for change/s at an institutional level around social issues.
- This is an **effective civic engagement tool** that allows people to voice their concern at city hall during the budget process and other issues
- There is a **process** involved for making deputation.

# Make a deputation

## Know the Institution/Decision-making body

- It is important to know who we are addressing when voicing our concerns: City council? Mayor's Executive committee? The budget committee? Or any other city committees?
- Know who is sitting on the other side (who is the chair, other members, potential allies)
- Respect the rules of engagement (signing up, maintaining timeline i.e. 3-5 minutes, and be disciplined)



# An ideal deputation

## Introduction

- Your name and ward
- Why you are here
- What is your main message?

## Main body of the speech

- Explain your position (i.e. your specific concerns?)
- Offer evidence to back your points (e.g., statistics like the numbers waiting for subsidized child care, can't get a job if no care for dependents, also stories of real lives affected)

## Conclusion

- Your recommendations – what are you proposing?
- Thank the councillors for listening to you

# Deputation tips

- **Be Prepared**

- Do your research about the issue and the interests of the committee members
- Write down your deputation
- Keep practicing it out-loud to ensure your message is clear and takes less than five minutes

- **Expect to be stopped**

- You may be stopped before you're done, try not to let that frustrate you

- **It's okay if you don't know the answer**

- Try not to get nervous; it's okay to say you can provide them with the answer later

# Submit a written deputation

- Comments must be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the specific committee or council you are addressing
- You can find contact info, meeting schedules, and agendas for each committee here: <http://bit.ly/CoTOctees>
- Indicate that your comments are for distribution to a specific committee or the council, if possible add the item number in the agenda, name and date of the meeting
- If sent before the meeting, your comments will make the public record.

# Deputation example



# Deputation example



# Deputation example



# Deputation template

## Introduction:

Hello my name is

.....

I am from Ward

.....

Today I am here to (describe your main message/s)

.....

## Main body of the speech:

1. Offer information to support your message (what happened in the past, related stories to tell)

.....

2. Give some examples of the impact in the community

.....

3. Share something personal (if possible), why this matters to you

.....

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, I recommend that the City Council (or Committee):

.....

I would like to thank you for the giving me an opportunity to speak on this important issue.

**If you have copies of your speech, say you'll give them to the clerk to distribute, then do so.**

# Role playing

## Pick one of the poverty reduction themes:

- Housing
- Jobs
- Services, such as childcare or recreation
- Transit
- Food Security

### Group work:

- In groups of two write up a deputation and then present it to each other as though you are in a committee meeting at City Hall

### Things to consider:

- What is the issue
- Why is it important to you and your community
- Impacts
- Solution
- Conclusion
- Thank You to the committee

# Upcoming opportunities

- **January 12- 14, 2016- Public Budget Deputations**
- **January 26, 2016 - Budget Committee final wrap-up**
- **February 9, 2016 - Executive Committee**
- **February 17 & 18, 2016- City Council**
- **[buc@toronto.ca](mailto:buc@toronto.ca), Phone: 416-392-4666, Fax: 416-392-1879**



# Final thoughts?

- Questions?
- What one thing you've learned from this training session?
- How will you use this information in 2016 city budget?
- How can we support you to shape 2016 City Budget?

