Wednesday, November 16, 2016

**Members:**
- City Councillor J. Bowman – Wards 3 and 4 *(Chair)*
- Regional Councillor G. Gibson – Wards 1 and 5
- Regional Councillor E. Moore – Wards 1 and 5
- Regional Councillor M. Palleschi – Wards 2 and 6
- Regional Councillor M. Medeiros – Wards 3 and 4
- Regional Councillor G. Miles – Wards 7 and 8
- Regional Councillor J. Sprovieri – Wards 9 and 10
- City Councillor D. Whillans – Wards 2 and 6 *(Vice-Chair, Economic Development and Enterprise Services)*
- City Councillor P. Fortini – Wards 7 and 8
- City Councillor G. Dhillon – Wards 9 and 10

**Staff Present:**
- Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:
  - H. Schlange, Chief Administrative Officer
  - B. Seguin, Advisor, Economic Development
  - M. McCollum, Senior Manager, Strategic Development
- Economic Development Office:
  - B. Darling, Director, Economic Development
- City Clerk’s Office:
  - P. Fay, City Clerk
  - E. Evans, Deputy City Clerk
  - S. Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator
The meeting was called to order at 1:28 p.m. and adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered.

ED107-2016 That the agenda for the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016 be approved as amended to add the following item:

5.3. Delegation from Leigh Smout, Executive Director, Toronto Region Board of Trade, re: **Health Sector Trade Mission to the United Arab Emirates – January 31 to February 8, 2017**.

Carried

The supplementary information was distributed at the meeting

1. The following items were listed on the agenda to be distributed prior the meeting:

   6.1. Presentation by B. Seguin, Advisor, Economic Development, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, re: **Brampton University Initiative: Update and Next Steps**.

   7.1. Report from B. Seguin, Advisor, Economic Development, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, re: **Brampton University Initiative: Update and Next Steps**.

2. The following material was received by the City Clerk’s Office after the agenda was printed and related to **Item 5.1** on the agenda. In accordance with the Procedure By-law, Committee approval was not required to add this item to the agenda.

   **Re: Item 5.1** – Presentation and petition from Jotvinder Sodhi, re: **Brampton University**

   Note: Page 1 of 19 of the petition was provided for Committee’s information. The original petition contains approximately 330 signatures and is available in the City Clerk’s Office.

3. The following delegation request was received by the City Clerk’s Office after the agenda was printed and relates to Items 6.1 and 7.1 on the agenda. In accordance with the Procedure By-law, Committee approval was not required to add this item to the agenda.
5.2. Delegation from Dave Kapil on behalf of the New Brampton Community Task Force, re: Brampton University.

13.1. Correspondence from Chief R. Stacey Laforme, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, dated October 27, 2016, re: Brampton University Initiative.

2. Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act – nil

3. Consent

* The following items listed with an asterisk (*) were considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Committee and were approved at one time.

(nil)

4. Announcements – nil

5. Delegations

5.1. Delegation from Jotvinder Sodhi, Brampton resident, re: Brampton University.

Items 6.1, 5.2 and 13.1 were brought forward and dealt with at this time.

There was Committee consensus that Item 6.1 be dealt with first.

M. McCollum, Senior Manager, Strategic Development, and B. Seguin, Advisor, Economic Development, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, provided a presentation on the University Work Plan and Blue Ribbon Panel, as follows:

- Overview and background
- Work of the Panel to date
- Update on Blue Ribbon Panel Meeting (November 3)
- Draft Work Plan – Prior to Call for Proposals
- Future-Ready University Team
- Brampton Business Community
- Innovation Corridor
- Statistical Analysis – Sample
- City Commitments
- University Strategy
Committee discussion included the following:

- Appropriate time for discussions on a university site
- Indication that Brampton has various land options to accommodate universities
- Indication that universities have expressed a preference for an urban location
- Confirmation that discussions between staff and universities are ongoing and that staff will continue to communicate with universities prior to the call for proposals

Jotvinder Sodhi, Brampton resident, addressed Committee regarding the university initiative in Brampton, as follows:

- Role of Council, the Blue Ribbon Panel and Brampton residents in establishing a university in Brampton
- Suggestion that Brampton Council lead the university project
- Position of the Town of Milton on its university initiative
- The need for Council to reach a consensus on a location for the university
- Concerns regarding:
  - a potential increase in property taxes, as a result of this project
  - the amount of information available to the public from the Blue Ribbon Panel
  - the performance and composition of the Blue Ribbon Panel
  - traffic congestion in the City of Brampton

Dave Kapil, on behalf of the New Brampton Community Task Force, congratulated the City of Brampton on the announcement from the Province regarding the establishment of a university campus in Brampton. Mr. Kapil advised that the New Brampton Community Task Force has considered various sites for the proposed university, and concluded that the best location was downtown Brampton due to its access to transit and entertainment venues. In addition, Mr. Kapil outlined the benefits of a university to the downtown and Brampton overall.

Committee discussions took place with respect to the following:

- Concerns regarding the inaccuracies in Mr. Sodhi’s delegation
- Composition of the Blue Ribbon Panel, which includes many respected individuals from Brampton
- Indication that Brampton is well-positioned to move forward with the university initiative and respond to the call for proposals
- Confirmation that Council has been united in its efforts to bring a university to Brampton
- Clarification that Brampton has not selected a location for a university in order to remain flexible to the preferences of interested universities
- The need to consider the strengths and weaknesses of each location
• Information on the current role of Blue Ribbon Panel and the need to determine its future role
• The need for the City to communicate and build a relationship with the university directly
• Current position of the Town of Milton on its university initiative
• Reasons that discussions with universities have remained confidential
• Confirmation that staff has commenced the process for identifying sites for a university and that it is not advisable to announce potential sites at this time
• Indication that staff will report back to Committee upon receiving further information on the call for proposal and on potential interest from universities

Committee Members extended thanks to staff and the members of the Blue Ribbon Panel for their efforts in the university initiative, noting that Brampton has been well-served. In addition, Committee thanked the Panel Chair, former Ontario Premier William G. Davis, and Vice Chair, Jaipaul Massey-Singh, Chairman of the Brampton Board of Trade, for their leadership on the Panel.

The following amendment to the staff recommendation in Report Item 6.1 was introduced:

That staff be requested to report back on the future role of the Blue Ribbon Panel in the 2017 university request for proposals process.

The motion, in its entirety, was considered as follows.

ED108-2016 1. That the presentation and report from M. McCollum, Senior Manager, Strategic Development, and B. Seguin, Advisor, Economic Development, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated November 14, 2016, to the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016, re: University Work Plan and Blue Ribbon Panel Update be received; and,

2. That staff be requested to report back on the future role of the Blue Ribbon Panel in the 2017 university request for proposals process; and,

3. That the delegation and petition from Jotvinder Sodhi, Brampton resident, to the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016, re: Brampton University be received; and,

4. That the delegation and correspondence from Dave Kapil on behalf of the New Brampton Community Task Force, November 11, 2016, to the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016, re: Brampton University Initiative be received; and,
5. That the correspondence from Chief R. Stacey Laforme, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, dated October 27, 2016, to the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016, re: Brampton University Initiative be received.

Carried

5.2. Delegation from Dave Kapil on behalf of the New Brampton Community Task Force, re: Brampton University.

Dealt with under Item 5.1 – Recommendation ED108-2016

5.3. Delegation from Leigh Smout, Executive Director, Toronto Region Board of Trade, re: Health Sector Trade Mission to the United Arab Emirates – January 31 to February 8, 2017.

Leigh Smout, Executive Director, Toronto Region Board of Trade, extended an invitation for Mayor Jeffrey to attend a Health Sector Trade Mission in the United Arab Emirates from January 31 to February 8, 2017. Mr. Smout provided an overview of the itinerary and objectives for this trade mission, outlined the opportunity to represent the health and life sciences sector in Brampton and Toronto Regions, and highlighted the significant benefits and opportunities that may result from this mission.

Committee discussion on this matter included:

- Confirmation from Mayor Jeffrey that she is interested in attending this trade mission as it presents a significant opportunity for Brampton
- Questions regarding the provisions in the Council Expense Policy relating to travel/attendance at trade missions
- Suggestion that staff perform its due diligence to ensure there is a strong business case for Brampton to attend this mission
- Importance of attending trade missions that present significant benefits / opportunities for Brampton
- Suggestion that a member of staff or Council accompany the Mayor on this mission

Mayor Jeffrey thanked Mr. Smout for extending this invitation to the City of Brampton.

The following motion was considered
ED109-2016  That the delegation and correspondence from Leigh Smout, Executive Director, Toronto Region Board of Trade, dated October 26, 2016 to the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 16, 2016, re: Health Sector Trade Mission to the United Arab Emirates – January 31 to February 8, 2017 be referred to the Chief Administrative Officer, Economic Development staff and the Mayor’s Office, to evaluate the invitation and report back to Committee on the merits and business case for Brampton’s participation in the upcoming trade mission to the United Arab Emirates.

Carried

6.  **Staff Presentations**


    Dealt with under Item 5.1 – Recommendation ED108-2016

7.  **Economic Development and Enterprise Services**


    Dealt with under Item 5.1 – Recommendation ED108-2016

8.  **Minutes** – nil

9.  **Other/New Business** – nil

10.  **Referred Matters** – nil

11.  **Deferred Matters** – nil

12.  **Notices of Motion** – nil
13. **Correspondence**

13.1. Correspondence from Chief R. Stacey Laforme, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, dated October 27, 2016, re: **Brampton University Initiative**.

**Dealt with under Item 5.1 – Recommendation ED108-2016**

14. **Councillors Question Period** – nil

15. **Public Question Period**

1. In response to questions from Dave Kapil, New Brampton Community Task Force, regarding the Blue Ribbon Panel, information was provided with respect to:
   - the selection of Panel members
   - the future of the Panel and the possibility of adding a member from the New Brampton Community Task Force
   - successful management/organization of this group

16. **Closed Session** – nil

17. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered.

**ED110-2016** That the Economic Development Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

___________________________________
City Councillor J. Bowman, Chair