



Gurpreet Dhillon

City Councillor, Wards 9 & 10

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 13, 2016**

COUNCILLORS' MARTIN MEDEIROS AND GURPREET DHILLON SUBMIT MOTION TO REQUEST EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION INTO STAFF BONUS PROGRAM FROM PREVIOUS TERMS

BRAMPTON, ON – At next week's City of Brampton Council meeting, Regional Councillor Martin Medeiros will present a motion to request an external investigation into a secret bonus program for staff from the years 2009-2014.

The motion, seconded by City Councillor Gurpreet Dhillon, requests that the 'Outside Policy Requests' (OPR) program be immediately investigated by external authorities as to whether it contravened the Municipal Act. The OPR program, through a recent City Auditor's report, was found to have secretly given \$1.25 million in unjustified bonuses to 167 non-union staff.

"We need to investigate and identify any malicious behaviour and restore public confidence. These bonuses are just another example of a pattern of negligence from previous council and staff," said Councillor Medeiros. "We were elected to bring change, and it's outrageous that after 3 years we are still dealing with scandals from previous council terms".

Councillor Dhillon echoed these comments.

"There was a culture of misuse of taxpayer money in the previous term from both Council and staff. I am hopeful this motion will result in an investigation to find out which staff received these bonuses, and who authorized them," said Councillor Dhillon, who also noted that in the last election "residents demanded integrity and transparency from City Hall".

The motion will be presented at the June 21 Council meeting.

The motion reads:

Whereas integrity, ethics, transparency and accountability in the administration of services and the management of public monies must be at the core of all city practices;

Whereas elected officials and municipal staff are expected to perform their duties in a manner that promotes public confidence;

Whereas a recent City Auditor's report and management cited that \$1.25 million in additional salary expenditures to 167 non-union staff under a program named *Outside Policy Requests (OPR)*;

Whereas the \$1.25 million in additional salary expenditures were approved by management outside of Corporate policies, and lacked the proper, if any, coding for tracking and compliance purposes per City corporate standards;



Gurpreet Dhillon

City Councillor, Wards 9 & 10

Whereas the reported internal audit was based on information provided by internal staff and further disclosure and investigation might lead to further discoveries of the OPR practice and additional salary expenditures;

Whereas the previous Council's Audit and Budget Committees failed to identify this OPR practice;

Therefore, be it resolved that City Council hereby request an external investigation be conducted on the *Outside Policy Requests* program and related discretionary and non-discretionary salary increases granted to City employees between January 1, 2009 and May 14, 2014 and whether this program contravened the Municipal Act.

Mover: Martin Medeiros

Seconder: Gurpreet Dhillon

-30-

For more information, please contact:

City Councillor Gurpreet Dhillon:
905-874-2609 or gurpreet.dhillon@brampton.ca

or

Regional Councillor Martin Medeiros
905-874-2634 or martin.medeiros@brampton.ca