



BRIAN BOWMAN
MAYOR • MAIRE

June 18, 2020

Councillor Matt Allard
The City of Winnipeg
510 Main Street
Winnipeg MB R3B 1B9

Dear Councillor Allard:

Thank you for agreeing to continue serving Winnipeggers in the roles of Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, Council Liaison to the Francophone and Francophile Cities Network, Council Liaison for Intermodal Connectivity, Council Liaison for Labour Relations, and Council Liaison for French Language Services, effective June 27, 2020. I am honoured that you have accepted these critical leadership roles.

This is a defining moment in our history. It is a time for all of us to re-focus and renew our determination to make Winnipeg the city it ought to be, and can be. Since the election of this Council in 2018, we have made real progress in building a civic government that is more accountable, accessible, and innovative. But now we are confronting additional challenges, some of the most formidable in our history.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a global public-health and economic crisis whose scope and impact far exceed anything most of us have seen, in our lifetimes. Winnipeggers have pulled together to protect one another's health with courage and remarkable success, but the path to recovery will not be easy.

This pandemic has taken its toll not only in terms of physical and mental health, but also in its impact on people's jobs and businesses. People are hurting, and the City of Winnipeg must continue to be there for all our residents.

We must continue to be vigilant in safeguarding public health. We must continue to ensure effective delivery of the essential services Winnipeggers rely upon. We must continue doing all that we can to assist those who have been hard-hit financially, just as we did by providing temporary relief on penalties for unpaid property and business taxes. And we must work vigorously and in concert with our federal and provincial partners to develop and implement an effective post-pandemic plan for economic recovery.

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The COVID-19 crisis is not the only global pandemic we are confronting, today. While not new to the global community, events in recent weeks have underlined in the starkest terms the fact that racism is real, and that like COVID-19, it has global scope and viral toxicity. The outpouring of grief and the call for change which has swept the world is deep and strong, and crosses all borders.

Winnipeg is not immune; we know that there are people who are hurting in our community. Just as we have done with the COVID-19 crisis, we must pull together to fight racism wherever it exists in our city. Peacefully and powerfully, Winnipeggers have gathered in their thousands to demand an end to racism. The City of Winnipeg is listening, and must continue listening, to their voices. We will not be the city we aspire to be until Black people, Indigenous people, and all people of colour in our community feel genuinely respected, valued, and safe.

Given the challenges we face, your role as Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works has great significance for our future as a city. I would like to take this opportunity to outline the expectations, both general and specific, which are foundational to your performance of this role.

Your primary goal as Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works will be to meet the needs of a growing population and economy, by rebuilding the city's road and active transportation networks, and moving towards an increasingly efficient, well-functioning, and safe transit service. Additionally, you are responsible for overseeing the activities conducted by the Winnipeg Public Service's Public Works Department and Transit Department, on behalf of our citizens, ensuring these activities are carried out so that the public's best interests are always kept paramount.

Specifically, you will be expected to continue to work with the Public Service to:

- Lead a historic six-year, \$847 million regional and local road renewal program;
- Continue the funding partnership with the provincial government in support of the Municipal Infrastructure Research Chair at the University of Manitoba;
- Continue to find innovative ways to improve snow clearing;
- Continue expanding the City's award-winning Active Transportation network;
- Lead and support the Winnipeg Transit Master Plan, specifically to:
 - Establish a high-frequency network, and,
 - Implement a gradual and phased-in deployment of electric buses;
- Install 55 new heated bus shelters, and lead on other customer-facing investments by leveraging funding from the new Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program; and,
- Continue leading on transit safety.

As we move forward in building a stronger Winnipeg for the future, you will be expected to work with the Public Service to:

- Work with community members and Members of Council on the use of street closures to support commerce and enhance active transportation options for residents;
- Ensure the safety and viability of Winnipeg Transit for riders and operators during the COVID-19 pandemic and after it has passed; and,
- Support Public Works in the completion of the Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan for council consideration.

As Mayor, it is my duty to ensure that members of the Executive Policy Committee (EPC) continue to act as leaders in collaboration with all members of City Council, the Public Service, and the citizens of Winnipeg. An important part of serving on EPC is demonstrating leadership and collaboration that transcends ward boundaries, in the best interest of building a city we can all be proud of. As such, it is my expectation that your focus as a member of EPC is to meet the priorities of residents across Winnipeg, as well as the priorities of the residents you represent in the St. Boniface Ward.

Additionally, you are expected to maintain a professional and healthy relationship with members of our Public Service and the Office of the Mayor, who share a responsibility to support you in your official capacity. Equally important is your ability to create and maintain a respectful rapport with local and national media.

In your many roles on Council, you have demonstrated a willingness to collaborate and work constructively with the community, Council colleagues, and members of the Public Service. I am confident that you will continue to build on the trust of our citizens as you have done throughout your tenure on Council, and I know that your focus on the priorities of Winnipeggers will continue. I also want you to know that you can count on me for continued support in your efforts.

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Councillor Matt Allard

The challenges facing our city have never been greater. But I am confident that Winnipeggers will weather this storm, and that we will emerge a healthier, more prosperous, more inclusive community. Once again, Councillor Allard, thank you for accepting the roles of Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, Council Liaison to the Francophone and Francophile Cities Network, Council Liaison for Intermodal Connectivity, Council Liaison for Labour Relations, and Council Liaison for French Language Services; as well as for all your contributions to Winnipeg's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Bowman', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right and curving upwards at the end.

Brian Bowman, B.A.(Adv.), J.D., CPA(Hon.), CGA(Hon.)
Mayor
The City of Winnipeg