



BRIAN BOWMAN  
MAYOR • MAIRE

June 18, 2020

Councillor Scott Gillingham  
The City of Winnipeg  
510 Main Street  
Winnipeg MB R3B 1B9

Dear Councillor Gillingham:

Thank you for agreeing to continue serving Winnipeggers by continuing in your role as Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance, Council Representative for the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO), and Council Representative for the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and for assuming the new role of Council Liaison for Veteran and Military Affairs, 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 Finance 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 Finance will be to ensure the City is able to meet the needs of a growing city, while respecting taxpayer dollars. Additionally, you are responsible for overseeing the activities conducted by the Winnipeg Public Service's Corporate Finance Department on behalf of our citizens, to ensure the public's best interests are always kept paramount.

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

- Lead on matters pertaining to the City of Winnipeg's budget planning and development, in collaboration with the Chief Financial Officer;
- Limit annual property tax increases to 2.33 percent over the next two years, provided no incremental provincial cost downloading or further provincial regulatory requirements are imposed on the City of Winnipeg, while dedicating the additional revenue to rebuilding roads across the city and to meeting existing financing commitments for the second stage of the Southwest Rapid Transitway;
- Continue to reduce the municipal business tax rate annually; and,
- Maintain the City of Winnipeg's stable credit rating.

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

- Help the City of Winnipeg navigate through and beyond the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Support the inter-governmental efforts in seeking approval for the Council approved priorities for federal and provincial cost sharing of \$643.4 million under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to support the renewal and upgrade of the North End Wastewater Treatment Plant, construction of a new recreation centre in Southwest Winnipeg and an expansion of the St. James Civic Centre;
- Oversee the implementation of the 4-year balanced budget and lead the annual budget update;
- Work together with the Chair of Protection, Community Services & Parks and the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to seek full cost recovery for EMS services as directed by Council;
- Work collaboratively with the Chair of the Winnipeg Police Board and the Winnipeg Police Service to bring forward options and recommendations for Council's consideration on a multi-year funding formula for the WPS that will provide planning certainty for the City of Winnipeg and a sustainable, predictable funding level for the WPS; and,
- Support the inter-governmental efforts to implement a modern, growth-oriented funding framework for the City of Winnipeg.

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 will be to meet the priorities of residents across Winnipeg, as well as the priorities of the residents you represent in the St. James 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. You have served citizens well in these roles, as you showed in your dedication to completion of the City of Winnipeg's first 4-year balanced budget. 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.

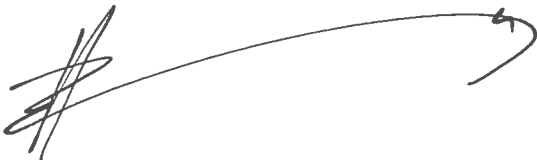
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Councillor Scott Gillingham

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 Gillingham, thank you for accepting the roles of Chairperson of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance, member of the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO), Council Representative for the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, and Council Liaison for Veteran and Military Affairs, 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