

INQUIRY OF THE MAYOR

FROM: Councillor Michael Walker

DATE: January 17, 2008

RE: "FAIR TAXES" CAMPAIGN – www.fairtaxes.ca

Further to your response of November 15, 2007 in response to my Inquiry of October 11, 2007 concerning the "Fair Taxes" campaign, you indicated that all the related expenses and receipts would be submitted according to Council policy.

As it is now a new year (in particular, for reporting expenses) and it has been two months since your response, I do not have your responses to the specific questions of my last inquiry. So, I hereby resubmit the questions I have for you concerning the funding of this public awareness campaign.

As this campaign was not endorsed by Council and funding was not allocated by Council, your answers must illuminate the details of this initiative. Also, since the source of the funding for this campaign is still currently unconfirmed, transparency is needed for the record as this kind of partisan campaign has never before been mounted by a Mayor with a select group of Councillors to pressure and persuade opposing Councillors.

I request current answers to the following questions regarding the "*Fair Taxes*" campaign:

- 1) What was/is the source of the funding for this campaign? What account?
- 2) Was/is there any volunteer time/private funds donated to this campaign? Who are the volunteers? Who are the donors? What are the donation amounts from individuals, corporations, unions, et cetera?
- 3) How much did it cost to fund this campaign, from conception (please itemize the costs, including printing)?
- 4) How much is allocated to fund this campaign to its conclusion?
- 5) How much did the website creation cost? Who generated the content of the website? In whose name is the domain name registered, at whose cost and how much?

- 6) Did any City staff, Councillors, and/or Council staff contribute to the generation and execution of this campaign? Who are they, how many and from what department/division? How many hours has each City staff member devoted to this campaign to date?
- 7) Did any City department/division review any draft of this campaign before its commencement? Did City Legal review the final draft to clear any ethical conflicts or content issues, for example? Was any legal opinion regarding this campaign obtained before commencing it?

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Walker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Michael Walker
Councillor – St. Paul's

Cc// Members of City Council