

Notice of Motion  
Toronto City Council  
October 3, 2000

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- Whereas, the Toronto Board of Trade in February, 2000 announced its support and its intention to actively seek a substantial reduction in the commercial, industrial and multi-residential municipal property tax rates as levied by the City of Toronto; and,
- Whereas, the Board of Trade has proposed that this tax reduction for business be financed solely on the backs of homeowners which, by the Board of Trade's own calculations would result in on-average city-wide residential tax increases of 62%; and,
- Whereas, the Board of Trade has further recommended that municipal tax rates for all property classes be equalized by 2005, a proposal that would effectively shift \$900 million in property taxes from the private sector onto individual homeowners; and,
- Whereas, currently there are approximately 47, 563 residential properties in the City of Toronto that still have 1- 3 years before the full impact of their previous tax increase as a result of the provincial government's imposition of CVA in 1998 comes into effect; and,
- Whereas, the introduction of CVA created substantial tax shifts within the commercial property tax class itself resulting in large decreases for office properties and large increases for small business and retail properties; for example the average CVA-related tax increase (without caps) for retail properties in the City of Toronto is 167%, thus negating any potential decrease for small business/retail strip that would be incurred as a result of implementing the Board of Trade's proposal, and;

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Whereas, it would be unconscionable for this City Council to load additional tax burdens onto individual residents and families in order to provide a tax cut for businesses and corporations, and;

Whereas, Council has not had an opportunity to deal with the motion placed on the February 29, 2000 agenda of Toronto City Council that there be no transfer of property tax burdens from the commercial/ industrial property class onto the residential class during the coming reassessment, and;

Whereas, the October 2000 meeting of Toronto City Council will be the final meeting of the 1998-2000 term of Council; and,

Whereas, it is imperative that voters in the City of Toronto know where their local politicians and the Mayor stand on this issue prior to casting their ballots on November 13, 2000.

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:**

**Toronto City Council endorse a policy position that there be no transfer of property tax burdens from the commercial/industrial property class onto the residential class during the coming reassessment for implementation in 2001.**

Moved by Councillor Walker  
Seconded by Councillor Johnston