COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Tuesday November 7, 2006
INAUGURAL MEETING

The Council met at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Katz: Good evening ladies and gentlemen. May I ask you all now to please rise. Please remain standing for the singing of the national anthem.

'O Canada' sung by
Transcona Collegiate Choir

Mayor Katz: Please be seated. Thank you and welcome to the Inaugural Meeting of the 12th Council of the City of Winnipeg. You've just heard the Transcona Collegiate Choir under the direction of Carrie Schellenberg-Wilson. They will perform for us again later in the program. Thank you very much choir, we appreciate you being here tonight.

Also with us tonight is Pastor Bruce Martin. We also have six other Pastors here which I call affectionately, the group of seven who had a very special significance in my life and we'll explain that another time. I want to thank them all for being here this evening.

It's my pleasure to introduce our Council Pages this evening, Elaine Manipol, Michael Dwilow, Bryce Brousseau and Simone Jaman. Thank you very much for being here today.

City Clerk: Mayor Katz, would you please come and subscribe to your declaration of office. Mayor Katz, please repeat after me.

Mayor Katz: I, Sam Katz, do solemnly promise and declare that I will truly, faithfully and impartially to the best of my knowledge and ability, execute the office to which I've been elected. And that I have not received and will not receive any payment or award or the promise of payment or reward for the exercise of partiality, corruption or other improper execution of the office. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously, believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Mayor Katz: Members of council would you please stand to subscribe to your declaration of office.

City Clerk: Councillors please repeat after me.

Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Gerbasi, Lazarenko, Leipsic, Nordman, O'Shaughnessy, Pagtakhan, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal, Wyatt:

I do solemnly promise and declare that I will truly, faithfully and impartially to the best of my knowledge and ability, execute the office to which I have been elected. And that I have not received and will not receive any payment or award or the promise of payment or reward for the exercise of partiality, corruption, or other improper execution of the office. And I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously, believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Mayor Katz: Members of Council please be seated. Mr. Clerk, roll call please.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Gerbasi, Lazarenko, Leipsic, Nordman, O'Shaughnessy, Pagtakhan, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal and Wyatt.

Mayor Katz: It is now my pleasure to ask Pastor Bruce Martin to lead us in prayer. Members of Council and visitors in the gallery, would you please rise.

Pastor Bruce Martin: Your Worship Mayor Katz just before I pray, thank you for inviting me here tonight and may I say that I'm really representative of many other Pastors and Priests and spiritual leaders who care about you and the Council and pray for you regularly and it is an honour for us to be here tonight. Let us pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you so much for this wonderful city of Winnipeg. Thank you Lord for its natural beauty, its rich history and its incredible people. Truly, we are blessed. Thank you for the great privilege that is ours to show hospitality to thousands of newcomers every year from all over the world. We are privileged to be a home to the homeless.

Lord, it is my privilege tonight to pray for our Mayor and the Council. I pray for them collectively that you would bless them with a common vision and the spirit of co-operation as they give leadership to this city we call home. I also pray for each one of them individually. Bless their families and cause each one to find the balance in their public and private lives. For those gathered here tonight and for all who work in one way or another to make our city a safer, cleaner place to raise our families, Lord would you protect each employee from accident or injury and give health and strength for the daily tasks.

I'm reminded Lord, your word says that the authorities that exist have been established by you. We accept our Mayor and this new Council as gifts from you. Bless them Lord and make them a blessing as they model sound judgment, moral integrity and mutual respect for all people. In this week of remembrance may we never take our freedoms for granted and the price that was paid to gain them. I pray this tonight to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and for many in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Mayor Katz: Please be seated. Thank you Pastor Martin. I would now like to call upon each Member of Council to come forward as the City Clerk calls your name to receive your certificate of election.

Clerk: Councillor Jeff Browaty, Bill Clement, Scott Fielding, Jenny Gerbasi, Harry Lazarenko, Brenda Leipsic, Grant Nordman, Mike O'Shaughnessy, Mike Pagtakhan, Harvey Smith, Gord Steeves, Justin Swandel, Lillian Thomas, Dan Vandal and Russ Wyatt.

Mayor Katz: That is what Councillor Wyatt calls cutting through red tape, ladies and gentlemen. Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming the newly elected, 12th Council of the City of Winnipeg.

MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS TO CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Katz: Good evening everyone. This is indeed a very special evening. It is my pleasure to look around the gallery and see so many familiar faces, so many new faces, and so many people who are filled with positive optimism about our city's future.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of City Clerk Richard Kachur, Deputy City Clerk Marc Lemoine and the entire City Clerks Department for running a smooth election process. A lot of people are not aware of the countless hours, hard work, and dedication involved in making sure that our democratic process runs smoothly.

I would also like to take a moment to mention the work of the tireless volunteers and supporters who worked on my campaign. Many who are here tonight, thank you and I could not have done it without you. There are too many to thank but you all made my re-election possible.

I also want to welcome the fresh new faces on City Council. I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we move forward on a positive and focused agenda. I like to think of the past two years as getting the foundation built. While much has been accomplished, there is still much to create to make a city of opportunity. We now have the foundation. We have a focused agenda that will take action and get results for the citizens of Winnipeg.

My vision for Winnipeg is a prosperous city that works, a city that embraces its potential, a city with roads that are the pride of our country. A city where there are jobs and opportunity for our youth and a city where people feel safe to walk or cycle in any of our neighbourhoods. With the overwhelming mandate I have received, I will continue to focus on our agenda to continue to fix our ailing roads and bridges, to continue to work with our police, to get even more officers on our

streets, to get rid of graffiti that blights our downtown, to eliminate the job killing business tax, to keep working to make Winnipeg not only Canada's river city, but Canada's green river city, by cleaning up and protecting our environment, to keep working in partnership with the provincial and federal government to get additional revenue, to get City Hall working and make it easier to understand and interact with by implementing 311, burning building call 911, burning question, call 311 and to get traffic in the city moving faster by synchronizing our light signals.

Winnipeggers have told me what their priorities are and you can continue to count on me to get the job done at City Hall. I'm up to that job and I know Council is as well. Thank you very much.

It is now my pleasure to introduce the members of my new Executive Policy Committee:

Deputy Mayor

Councillor Brenda Leipsic

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development

Councillor Russ Wyatt

Chairperson, Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues

Councillor Mike O'Shaughnessy

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development

Councillor Justin Swandel

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services

Councillor Gord Steeves

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works

Councillor Bill Clement

Mayor Katz: It is also my pleasure to announce the following appointments:

Acting Deputy Mayor

Councillor Gord Steeves

Chairperson, Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee and Youth Ambassador

Councillor Mike Pagtakhan

Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Opportunities

Councillor Dan Vandal

Mayor Katz: Now the next order of Council business is the election of Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer. I call for nominations for the election of Presiding Officer. Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Thank you Your Worship, it's my extreme pleasure tonight to move as Speaker of City Council, Harry Lazarenko.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. Are there any others?

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: I'd move nominations closed.

Mayor Katz: I guess that answers the question, are there any other nominations. All in favour, contrary? Carried.

I declare Councillor Lazarenko electing Presiding Officer and I love the wave. I now call for nominations for the election of Deputy Presiding Officer. Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Your Worship it's my pleasure to move that the Deputy Presiding Officer be Mike Pagtakhan.

Mayor Katz: Are there any other nominations?

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: I'd move nominations closed.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. All in favour, contrary? Carried. I declare Councillor Pagtakhan elected Deputy Presiding Officer. Congratulations to all. It is now my pleasure to call on the Transcona Collegiate choir to perform our closing selection.

Transcona Collegiate Choir

Mayor Katz: I now call for a motion to adjourn. Councillor Swandel moves that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Mr. Clerk roll call please

ROLL CALL

Clerk: His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Gerbasi, Lazarenko, Leipsic, Nordman, O'Shaughnessy, Pagtakhan, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal and Wyatt.

Mayor Katz: This meeting is now adjourned. I would like to invite everyone to join us for a reception on the second floor foyer. Thank you very much.

Council Adjourned at 8:41 P.M.