# COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
# Wednesday November 4, 2009

**The Council met at 9:35 a.m.**

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Lazarenko.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mayor Katz:** I would like to take a moment to welcome some extra special guests to City Hall. Youth joining city staff parents or guardians for "Take Your Kids to Work" day. Eighteen youth are visiting our City offices today to witness first hand the valuable services that our City staff provide to citizens every day and possibly even gather future career ideas of their own. I understand that after joining us for Council today, their itinerary includes some presentations, tours and IT demonstration with two-way radios and a Winnipeg Police cruiser and a trip to the 311 call centre. I want to welcome you all to City Hall and I hope you have an exciting day, learning what actually goes on at City Hall. Thank you. (Applause)

I would like to begin by thanking all members of Council. Oh there's a motion. Thank you very much.

**MOTIONS**

**Moved by Councillor Wyatt,**
**Seconded by Councillor Thomas,**

*That Councillor Browaty be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to his absence from the City on City Business.*

**Mayor Katz:** All in favour? Opposed? Carried.

Thank you. I would like to begin by thanking all members of Council for their rolls as members or chairs on each of their respective portfolios. Whether issues are at Community Committee, Standing Policy, Executive Policy or Council level, each and every issue deserves the full attention and consideration of each and every elected official. And I thank you for your commitment to ensure that the priorities of Winnipeggers are our priorities as well. I am pleased to announce some key changes to the rolls of Executive Policy Committee. There is an old saying that a leader's job is to help others have vision of their own potential. I feel confident that this leadership team will reach their potential and ensure Winnipeggers see the city we all love, realize its full potential as well.

Appointments to Executive Policy Committee are as follows. Retaining his roll as Chair of Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, Councillor Bill Clement. Assuming the role of Chair of Finance, Councillor Scott Fielding. Councillor Mike Pagtakhan will chair Protection and Community Services and retain his role as Chair of the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee. Councillor Gord Steeves assumes the role as Chair of Property and Development and retains his current role as Acting Deputy Mayor. Councillor Justin Swandel will assume the role of Chair of Downtown Development and retain his role as Deputy Mayor. Councillor Michael O'Shaughnessy retains his role as Secretary of Strategic Infrastructure Renewal. I will preside as the Secretary of Intergovernmental Affairs and will retain my current role as Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Affairs.

We have the opportunity this year with new changes in some roles on EPC to experiencing fresh, new ideas from Councillors who can see new portfolios with a fresh, new perspective. We can take this opportunity to find new energy, via rotation to reach new ideas into action. We also have two Councillors on EPC whose wisdom and experience are critical to Executive Policy Committee. Councillors Clement and O'Shaughnessy share with us a comprehension for management of our road and bridge

repair, and I'm confident they will continue to ensure our crumbling roads and bridges, sidewalks and lanes receive increased investment and improvement while the City tackles an immense infrastructure deficit.

My vision for Winnipeg is a flourishing city with a vibrant downtown where attainable housing and commercial business thrive in the balance of a supply that meets the demands. A city where citizens and visitors feel safe walking through our neighbourhoods, that the resources are protectors and first responders need to do their jobs, serving our citizens, are ready and available at their finger tips. Be it more funding for more recruits, new ambulance or apparatus, perhaps a new police helicopter and a new police headquarters that allows our Police Service room to expand and meet the rising demands of our citizens.

I believe we're moving in the right direction and we can shake things up to get closer to that goal for public safety. We've invested nearly $50 million to revitalize our neglected recreational facilities. Newly renovated and expanded Community Centres like the Cindy Klassen Rec. Complex, Bronx Park Community Centre and Good Neighbour Senior Complex have injected new programming and accommodations that in turn will inject new confidence and abilities for citizens of every age who wish to utilize them. With the new world-class water park on the horizon, we are looking at complimenting not only our recreational facility inventory but we can compete with the quality facilities of other major cities in North America. I'm confident that we will soon be flaunting our city's private sector water park investment that is accessible to all citizens through a built in, 25-year public access agreement for everyone to enjoy.

As a former member of Protection and Community Services, Councillor Pagtakhan has represented the citizens of Point Douglas ward, ensuring the community receives the police resources they need and the recreational infrastructure to provide key programming to inner city youth. I'm confident he will continue to serve all Winnipeggers and help our community services and emergency responders meet the growing demands of our citizens effectively as the new Chair of Protection and Community Services. We have the opportunity right now to expand on the possibility of fresh new ideas. Our downtown, comparatively, covers a vast amount of geography, so why shouldn't downtown revitalization include the revival of our very soon to be realized gem, Point Douglas. It makes perfect sense to me, and I know of at least one Councillor who is chomping at the bit to make sure downtown initiatives include action in the Point Douglas community along with the city's core.

Councillor Swandel has requested he be put to the task and I have every confidence that he will ensure progress and revitalization includes all of our city's downtown. The last year was an immensely challenging year for our city's budget process but I can assure you that this year it will be even more challenging. We work as a team, but we are, of course, led to the water eventually by one leader, the Chair of Finance. I have confidence that one energetic EPC Councillor is more than ready for the challenge. Councillor Scott Fielding takes the financial reins and with the background for finding efficiencies and creating Value for Dollar Program as Chair of the Economic Opportunity Commission He has demonstrated his readiness for the task. It will be challenging but I know he will lead us to find every efficiency in this year's budget process.

Councillor Gord Steeves as we all know is a Councillor for a flare for developing and exploring new ideas. As Chair of Protection and Community Services, Councillor Steeves brought many of the most hot button issues, such as taser use for discussion with the public as well as the public service. His flare for new ideas and love for discussion will most certainly put his talents to excellent use as the new Chair of Property, Planning and Development.

I am confident these Councillors will spend the coming year dedicating their

energy and consideration to their portfolios, and ensuring creative options are explored, fresh ideas flow, and solutions are swift and effective. As our city continues to face new challenges, and continues to address outstanding priorities, I believe it is important as mayor to continue to work diligently with both the Federal and Provincial Governments. The problems that face our city will only be solved by all Governments working together. And I remain committed to working towards those goals. I will continue my focus to maintain a positive working relationship with the other two levels of Government.

I worked in partnership with the Province of Manitoba to ensure that the City's commitment and investment of $140 million to repair our neglected Disraeli overpass remain open during construction and not disrupt the nearly 40,000 motorists who utilize this bridge daily. I've spoken with and will continue to work with Premier Selinger to ensure our priority to repair all of our crumbling infrastructure as the city comprising nearly two-thirds of the province's population, are priorities on Broadway as well. I've worked to lobby the Federal Government to assist the city to fund rapid transit, so our citizens and visitors have modern, fast, reliable transit that makes people want to leave their vehicles at home. We're moving ahead with phase 1 of BRT, but I will continue to advocate for Winnipeg to receive the funding for alternative forms of rapid transportation that other major cities in Canada have received assistance to develop and build.

The opportunities before us are immense, and it's my hope that we can come together as Mayor and Council to take advantage of them. And welcome the ideas this amended leadership team is certain to create and explore to ensure we make the priorities of Winnipeggers and vision for a safe, healthy and vibrant city, a reality. I look forward to working with members of EPC and all of my colleagues on Council in the coming year. Thank you.

I'd like to recognize the Motion and ask the mover if he wishes to speak to the Motion. Councillor Lazarenko?

**Motion No. 1**
**Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,**
**Seconded by Councillor Nordman,**

*WHEREAS at its annual Organizational Meeting, Council must elect the members of the Standing Committees and the members of all other Committees, Boards and Commissions;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council make the following appointments and referrals to the related Committees, Boards and Commissions:*

**Councillor Lazarenko:** No applaud, please. Mr. Mayor, on Motion No. 1, this Organizational Meeting that we go through each and every year and the Council must elect the members of the Standing Committees and members of other Committees, Boards and Commissions, a Motion is presented by myself and seconded by Councillor Nordman, therefore be it resolved Council make the following appointments and referrals to the related Committees, Boards and Commissions, so I move

**Mayor Katz:** Thank you. Is there any debate on Motion 1? I'll call the question. All in favour? Opposed? Carried.

Adjournment moved by…thank you very much, Councillor Swandel, that Council is now adjourned.

All in favour? Opposed? Carried.
Roll call

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Council adjourned at 9:48 a.m.**