STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE FINANCE

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 173
Councillor Eadie noted that the Bank of Canada lowered its interest rates by a quarter of a per cent and questioned if the reduction would have a positive effect on the City's ability to get some things done in the 2015 budget?

Councillor Morantz replied that they were always happy when interest rates go down and stated that Corporate Finance and the people who negotiate the debt packages would take full advantage of the reduction of bond rates to the greatest extent possible.

Councillor Eadie questioned if this would alleviate some of the issues they were trying to deal with in this particular budget, and be a part of budget considerations.

Councillor Morantz replied in the affirmative and advised that they would take it up with Corporate Finance to get a number that reflected the reduction in interest rates. He added that it was dependent on the total extent of borrowing for the upcoming capital budget but certainly, any little bit would help.

Councillor Eadie questioned if the Chair thought it was reasonable for somebody who does not run the day-to-day operations to find savings to move ahead important projects; to which Councillor Morantz replied in the affirmative.