Minute No. 260
Report "A" - Executive Policy Committee - March 17, 2004

Item No. 1 **Municipal Political Campaign Contributions and Tax Incentives**
File GK-2.4

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the Executive Policy Committee be granted an extension of time of sixty (60) days in order to report back on the matter.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report "A" - Executive Policy Committee - March 17, 2004

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Murray,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee recommended that Council grant it an extension of time of 60 days in order to report back on the matter.

On February 18, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee referred the January 28, 2004 Council Motion to the City Clerk for review and report back.

COUNCIL:

On January 28, 2004, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Angus,
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko,

WHEREAS at other levels of government, contributions made to a political campaign receive some form of tax incentive;

AND WHEREAS the City of Toronto has operated a successful program for municipal political campaign contributions since 1990;

AND WHEREAS The City of Winnipeg Charter, section 46(1), states that Council may by by-law, establish a program that entitles a contributor of a contribution made to a registered candidate during a campaign period:

- to a credit, of an amount equal to part of the contribution against taxes that are imposed by the city and that are payable by the contributor; or
- to a rebate of part of the contribution

AND WHEREAS several citizens of Winnipeg have expressed interest in a related program for municipal political campaign contributions;

Report "A" - Executive Policy Committee - March 17, 2004

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

AND WHEREAS candidates are required to incur costly expenditures to put their platforms forward to the electorate;

AND WHEREAS this type of program could stimulate an increase in the number of candidates running for municipal election, and enhance the electorate's knowledge of the political platforms;

AND WHEREAS programs of this nature carry a cost and would require City funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee review this issue and report back to Council.