

**MAYOR BARBARA HALL**  
**ADDRESS TO THE CANADIAN CLUB**

MONDAY OCTOBER 23, 1995

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MADAME PRESIDENT. HONOURED GUESTS, FELLOW TORONTONIANS:

IN HIS RECENT BOOK, *ACCIDENTAL CITY*, ROBERT FULFORD QUOTES FROM THE GREAT SCHOLAR, NORTHRUP FRYE, WHO ONCE CALLED TORONTO "A GOOD PLACE TO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS".

THESE WORDS CONJURE UP A POWERFUL IMAGE OF TORONTO'S PAST.

FOR FRYE, IT WAS A REFLECTION OF THE TIMES.

FORTY YEARS AGO, RETICENCE, PRIVACY AND HARD WORK EMBODIED PUBLIC VIRTUE.

PEOPLE WORKED QUIETLY AWAY IN A CITY WHICH DISCOURAGED PUBLIC GATHERINGS, HELD FEW PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS AND WHERE THERE WAS A NOTICEABLE ABSENCE OF STREET LIFE AND PUBLIC SPACES.

TORONTO HAS TRANSFORMED ITSELF SINCE THAT TIME,  
SPIRITUALLY AS WELL AS PHYSICALLY.

AS FULFORD SAYS, CITY-BUILDING IN TORONTO HAS BECOME  
AN ART OF PUBLIC REVELATION RATHER THAN PRIVATE  
EXPRESSION.

GRADUALLY, WHETHER BY ACCIDENT -- AS FULFORD  
CONTENDS-- BY DESIGN -- OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH AS I  
BELIEVE -- TORONTO HAS BECOME A CITY WHICH HAS  
ACQUIRED A SENSE OF ITSELF AND HAS A DESIRE TO BE SEEN  
AND UNDERSTOOD.

TORONTO HAS MADE ITS MARK ON A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS.  
FOR SOME, IT'S A DESTINATION, FILLED WITH PROSPERITY AND  
THE PROMISE OF SOMETHING BETTER.

FOR OTHERS, IT IS A SYMBOL OF SMUGNESS AND SUPERIORITY,  
OF ONE REGION'S PREDOMINANCE AND PREOCCUPATION WITH  
ITSELF, AT THE EXPENSE OF THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

WHATEVER YOUR PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW, TORONTO HAS  
BEEN A DEFINING ELEMENT WITHIN OUR NATIONAL PSYCHE,  
SPAWNING BOTH ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORTERS AND ARDENT  
DETRACTORS.

THE MAYOR'S CHAIR OFFERS THE BEST VANTAGE POINT FOR UNDERSTANDING THESE DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.

THE MAYOR IS THE FOCAL POINT FOR EVERYTHING PEOPLE EITHER LOVE OR HATE ABOUT THE CITY: I LOVE THE WATERFRONT, I HATE THE TRAFFIC; I LOVE THE THEATRE, I HATE THE NOISE; I LOVE THE PARKS, I HATE THE TAXES. AND THEN THE QUESTION: "WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?"

MY FIRST REACTION AS MAYOR IS TO SATISFY EACH DEMAND AND ANSWER EVERY CRITICISM.

INDEED, I BELIEVE THAT'S THE MAYOR'S JOB.

BUT OFTEN THE RESPONSIBILITIES I FACE EXCEED THE BOUNDARIES OF MY JURISDICTION --- JUST AS THE IMAGE AND IMPORTANCE OF TORONTO EXTEND FAR BEYOND ITS PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES.

WHAT DO PEOPLE EXPECT FROM THE MAYOR OF TORONTO?

SOME PEOPLE THINK IT IS MY JOB TO:

- PREVENT ROBBIE ALOMAR FROM BEING TRADED
- CONTROL THE MATING HABITS OF TORONTO'S RACCOON POPULATION
- ACCELERATE MOVIE LINE-UPS
- FIND LONG LOST RELATIVES

SO AS YOU CAN HEAR POPULAR PERCEPTIONS OF THE MAYOR'S POWERS ARE NOT OFTEN BASED IN REALITY. BUT, AS MY FRIEND SENATOR KEITH DAVEY OFTEN SAYS - IN POLITICS, PERCEPTION IS REALITY.

IT IS THIS CHALLENGE - TO BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE MORE GOOD FOR TORONTO -- THAT REVS ME UP EACH MORNING.

AS MAYOR, I AM COMMITTED TO FORGING CONSENSUS, CREATING PARTNERSHIPS, AND WORKING HARD ON THE CITY'S BEHALF AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

WE NEED CONSENSUS, WE NEED PARTNERSHIPS AND WE NEED TO WORK HARD BECAUSE TORONTO PLAYS A VITAL ROLE AS THE ENGINE OF THE NATIONS ECONOMY.

AND WE NEED OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO KNOW THAT.

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 1994 THE CITY OF TORONTO GENERATED 66 AND A HALF BILLION DOLLARS IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY?

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CITY OF TORONTO REPRESENTS ALMOST 9% OF CANADA'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT? WHILE WE'RE ONLY 2% OF THE NATION'S POPULATION.

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 1994 OVER \$ 8 BILLION DOLLARS FLOWED OUT OF THE TORONTO AREA TO THE REST OF ONTARIO? THAT IS OVER AND ABOVE WHAT WE GET IN GRANTS AND SERVICES FROM THE PROVINCE.

TORONTO'S IS IMPORTANT TO THE HEALTH OF THE PROVINCE AND THE HEALTH OF THE NATION.

AS MAYOR IT IS MY DUTY TO WARN THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER THE LONG TERM EFFECTS OF THEIR DECISIONS AND THE IMPACT OF THEIR POLICIES.

TORONTO IS THE GREATEST SINGLE CREATOR OF WEALTH AND PROSPERITY IN THE COUNTRY.

TO REMAIN SO, WE NEED THE PROVINCE AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO INVEST IN THE CITY.

IF YOU STOP INVESTING IN TRANSIT, SOCIAL SERVICES, EDUCATION AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFRASTRUCTURE, NOT ONLY TORONTONIANS BUT THE REST OF CANADA WILL SUFFER AS A RESULT.

THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST DO THEIR PART, AS WE HAVE TO DO OURS.

TO KEEP TORONTO'S ECONOMIC ENGINE RUNNING I AM TAKING ACTION.

LET ME GIVE YOU THREE RECENT EXAMPLES:

I WENT TO ASIA LAST MONTH TO DEVELOP BUSINESS FOR TORONTO.

I FORGED A CONSENSUS ON A FIXED LINK TO TORONTO'S ISLAND AIRPORT.

AND I DEVELOPED A PLAN TO REVITALIZE INDUSTRIAL AREAS DOWNTOWN.

LET ME TELL YOU MORE ABOUT MY TRIP TO ASIA.

I SPENT FIVE DAYS IN HONG KONG, BEIJING AND TAI PEI, PROMOTING TORONTO AS A PLACE TO INVEST.

I MET WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND INVESTORS IN EFFORTS TO SUPPORT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN TORONTO.

ONE IMMEDIATE RESULT IS THE SIGNING OF A MAJOR CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI GREAT WORLD INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND D.I. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF TORONTO.

OTHER LUCRATIVE CONTRACTS BENEFICIAL TO TORONTO ARE EXPECTED SOON.

LET ME TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE ISLAND AIRPORT ISSUE --- IT HAS BEEN A TOUGH ONE FOR ME.

IN THE PAST, I WAS AGAINST THE BUILDING OF A FIXED LINK BETWEEN THE MAINLAND AND THE ISLAND AIRPORT, I THOUGHT IT WOULD IMPACT NEGATIVELY ON THE RESIDENTIAL AND RECREATIONAL COMMUNITIES OF THE WATERFRONT.

SECURITY CONCERNS IN THE CITY FORCED ME TO REEXAMINE THE ISSUE.

I AM REFERRING OF COURSE TO THE CRASH OF THE NIMROD AT THE AIR SHOW AND THE SUBWAY DISASTER.

WE NEED A FIXED LINK TO THE AIRPORT SO EMERGENCY CREWS CAN GET THERE QUICKLY WHEN NEEDED.

I AM STILL AGAINST THE USE OF JETS AT THE AIRPORT BUT AS LONG AS THE CITY MAINTAINS CONTROL OF THE AIRPORT, WE CAN BUILD THIS LINK AND PRESERVE THE RESIDENTIAL AND RECREATIONAL COMMUNITIES OF THE WATERFRONT, AND ENHANCE THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF THE AIRPORT AND THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

IN TERMS OF MY PLAN TO REVITALIZE INDUSTRIAL AREAS  
DOWNTOWN WE ARE OFF TO A RUNNING START.

WE'LL SOON SEE POSITIVE CHANGES IN TWO OF OUR  
COMMUNITIES WHICH WERE LEFT TO SUFFER TOO LONG.

WORKING WITH ARCHITECTS, PLANNERS AND URBAN THINKERS  
WE HAVE CREATED A PLAN TO BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO THE  
COMMUNITIES AROUND SPADINA - KING AND PARLIAMENT -  
KING.

BY RADICALLY SIMPLIFY THE ZONING AND APPROVAL PROCESS  
WE WILL FREE PROPERTY OWNERS TO INNOVATE AND ATTRACT  
TENANTS IN AN EXCITING, HIGHLY URBAN LANDSCAPE.

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DURING MY CAMPAIGN FOR MAYOR, I FOCUSED ON THREE  
CORE OBJECTIVES.

ONE - CREATING ECONOMIC VITALITY,

TWO - MANAGING CITY HALL BETTER

AND THREE - BUILDING SAFE AND HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOODS.

I AM PROUD OF ALL WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR.

FIRST WE CHANGED THE ATMOSPHERE AT CITY HALL.

THIS COUNCIL IS WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE CITY.

SECOND, WE ARE GETTING OUR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER AND IT IS LONG OVERDUE.

I HAVE LAUNCHED A CORPORATE REVIEW TO SEE HOW CITY HALL CAN BE STREAMLINED AND MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE CITY.

ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM, THERE WILL BE CHANGE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT - WON'T THERE MINISTER LEACH.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE PRIOR TO THE ELECTION, THE MAYOR OF TORONTO RARELY MET WITH OTHER MAYORS IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA.

UNDER MY LEADERSHIP I HAVE CHANGED THAT, BY FORGING PARTNERSHIPS WITH ALL OUR NEIGHBOURS.

AND IT IS WORKING, EVEN MY FRIEND HAZEL MCCALLION, THE MAYOR OF MISSISSAUGA, IS TALKING ABOUT THE NEED FOR A HEALTHY CITY OF TORONTO FOR THE GOOD OF THE ENTIRE REGION.

THE VOICE OF TORONTO IS BEING HEARD.

ALONG WITH THE OTHER MAYORS IN METRO I MET WITH PREMIER HARRIS LAST WEEK.

WE TALKED ABOUT WORKING TOGETHER ON JOB CREATION, URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MUNICIPAL REFORM, EDUCATION FINANCING, A NEW ROLE FOR THE PROVINCE ROLE AND THE CONDITIONS FOR MAINTAINING A HEALTHY TORONTO.

WE TOLD THE PREMIER THAT A HEALTHY TORONTO IS VITAL TO THE FUTURE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE PROVINCE.

AS I SAID EARLIER, TORONTO GENERATES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF THE WEALTH THAT SUPPORTS METRO, THE ENTIRE PROVINCE.

TORONTO IS THE GATEWAY TO THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ARENA.

PROVINCIAL POLICIES THAT NURTURE TORONTO'S ECONOMIC VITALITY AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING REAP BENEFITS WHICH EXTEND FAR BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR CITY.

THE ABILITY OF METRO MAYORS TO COME TOGETHER ON A COMMON AGENDA FOR THEIR CITIZENS IS A POWERFUL FORCE.

IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR, CITY COUNCIL APPROVED MY PARTNERSHIP PLAN WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS AN ACTION PLAN TO WORK WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO BUILD AND SUSTAIN A STRONGER LOCAL ECONOMY.

I AM ESTABLISHING THE MAYOR'S ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS COUNCIL, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH MANY OF YOU IN THIS ROOM.

WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS IMPORTANT TO MY VISION FOR TORONTO.

FREQUENTLY I AM OUT THERE TALKING TO THE CITY'S EMPLOYERS - WHAT DO I HEAR?

PEOPLE SAY THIS IS A GREAT CITY, THEY WANT TO GROW HERE, BUT THEY TELL ME THE HIGH TAXES ARE KILLING THEM. I HEAR YOU LOUD AND CLEAR.

TAXES FOUR TIMES RENT ARE RIDICULOUS AND UNTENABLE.

TAXES MUST BE BROUGHT DOWN DRAMATICALLY TO KEEP BUSINESS FROM LEAVING THE CITY.

AS THE CITY OF TORONTO'S REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF THE GREATER TORONTO AREA CLEARLY OUTLINES - WE NEED REFORMS TO THE PRESENT PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM.

THE REFORMS WE ARE PROPOSING WOULD BRING ABOUT THE REQUIRED CHANGES WITH THREE RECOMMENDATIONS:

ONE, MUNICIPALITIES MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE DECISIONS UNIQUE TO THEIR CONSTITUENCIES.

TWO, MUNICIPALITIES MUST BE ALLOWED TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN ASSESSMENT SYSTEM AND NOT BASE IT ON THE FLUCTUATION OF THE MARKET.

AND THREE, PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL GRANTS MUST BE RE-BALANCED. RIGHT NOW TORONTO IS SUBSIDIZING PROPERTY TAXES OUTSIDE THE CITY, AS A RESULT OF AN ANTIQUATED GRANT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

I URGE YOU TO VIGOROUSLY SUPPORT THESE INITIATIVES AND TO ENCOURAGE THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE SWIFT ACTION ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.

I WANT TO TALK NOW ABOUT QUALITY OF LIFE AND ITS LINK TO ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INVESTMENT.

A STUDY RELEASED LAST FRIDAY, BY THE CITY OF TORONTO ON QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE TORONTO AREA, CONDUCTED BY ENVIRONICS RESEARCH, SHOWS THAT CONCERNS ABOUT QUALITY OF LIFE ARE UPPERMOST IN THE MINDS OF MOST TORONTONIANS.

WHEN ASKED WHAT ASPECTS OF QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CITY HAVE DETERIORATED, 42% RESPONDED - SAFETY.

(UNEMPLOYMENT WAS SECOND AT 21%)

TORONTO IS STILL A SAFE CITY.

WITHIN REASON, WE CAN WALK THE STREETS AT NIGHT, AND CITIZENS CONTINUE TO HAVE FAITH IN OUR POLICE -- A CLAIM THAT CANNOT BE MADE BY A NUMBER OF CITIES ON THIS CONTINENT.

HOWEVER, THERE IS A STEADILY GROWING CONCERN THAT TORONTO IS NOT AS SAFE AS IT USED TO BE.

THE FEAR OF CRIME IS A SELF-FULFILLING PROPHECY - IF YOU DO NOT FEEL SAFE IN CERTAIN NEIGHBOURHOODS, THOSE NEIGHBOURHOODS ARE NO LONGER SAFE.

AGAIN PERCEPTION BECOMES REALITY.

IT WAS THIS CONCERN THAT LED ME TO INTRODUCE MY CITY SAFETY INITIATIVE, PASSED BY COUNCIL LAST JUNE.

THE CITY SAFETY INITIATIVE BRINGS TOGETHER ALL THE AGENCIES OF THE CITY TO RESPOND TO SAFETY CONCERNS. IT IS CRIME PREVENTION AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL, THAT PROVIDES A VEHICLE FOR RESIDENTS TO WORK WITH THE CITY AND THE POLICE TO DESIGN THEIR OWN PROVISIONS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY.

IT COMPLEMENTS THE MODEL OF POLICING BEING INTRODUCED BY POLICE CHIEF DAVID BOOTHBY, AND I FULLY SUPPORT HIS INITIATIVES TO MAKE THIS A REALITY AT THE STREET LEVEL.

IN NORTHRUP FRYE'S DAY, TORONTO MAY HAVE BEEN A CITY WHERE PEOPLE MINDED THEIR OWN BUSINESS, BUT TODAY, THOUSANDS OF OUR RESIDENTS TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANY ASPECTS OF COMMUNITY LIFE AND THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR NEIGHBOURS.

TORONTONIANS RECOGNIZE THAT QUALITY OF LIFE IS IMPORTANT, THAT LIVABILITY IS IMPORTANT, AND THEY ARE PREPARED TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THEIR NEIGHBOURS, AND THEIR GOVERNMENTS, TO PRESERVE THESE QUALITIES OF OUR CITY.

BUT WE ALL REALIZE THAT A TOTAL RE-ENGINEERING OF OUR URBAN SOCIETY IS UNDER WAY AND NECESSARY, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK TOGETHER TO FIND NEW SOLUTIONS, AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO THESE CHALLENGES.

THE CITY SAFETY INITIATIVE HARNESSSED THIS ENERGY, SO DID THE CIVIC CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN INITIATED THIS SPRING, AS DO THE DON RIVER CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN, THE YONGE STREET MERCHANTS REVITALIZATION CAMPAIGN, AND THE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT PROGRAM.

NEIGHBOURS, LOCAL BUSINESS, BIG BUSINESS, CITY HALL AND A HOST OF CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TOGETHER TO FIND CREATIVE, WORKABLE, PREVENTATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.

I AM CONVINCED THAT THE PEOPLE OF TORONTO ARE PREPARED TO WORK HARDER THAN EVER BEFORE TO PRESERVE OUR STRONG HERITAGE, AND TO MAKE THE CITY A BETTER PLACE FOR THE GENERATIONS THAT WILL FOLLOW US. THOSE WHO WANT TO DISMANTLE THE FABRIC THAT HOLDS THE CITY TOGETHER MUST REMEMBER THAT THESE COMBINED ELEMENTS -- REASONABLE TAXES, CLEAN STREETS, SAFE AND HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOODS -- ALL CONTRIBUTE TO AN IMAGE OF TORONTO THAT NURTURES ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ATTRACTS INVESTMENT.

TORONTO HAS A GOOD STORY TO TELL TO THE WORLD, AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY IS RESPONDING.

A RECENT SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVES RANKED TORONTO AS ONE OF THE TOP FIVE HEAD-OFFICE LOCATIONS IN THE WORLD.

LAST YEAR, FORTUNE MAGAZINE DESIGNATED TORONTO AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP TEN CITIES FOR BUSINESS.

PRENTICE HALL'S ALMANAC THAT RATES CITIES RANKED TORONTO AS THE FOURTH BEST PLACE TO LIVE BASED ON THE COST OF LIVING, JOBS AND HOUSING.

CONSIDERING THESE REPORTS, IT IS GRATIFYING THAT OUR ATTRIBUTES ARE SIGNIFICANT AND WELL DOCUMENTED.

BUT, WE MUST DO MORE.

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS I WILL CONTINUE TO BRING FORWARD INITIATIVES TO ENSURE TORONTO IS THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK.

A NUMBER OF RECENT FACTS SUPPORT THIS OPTIMISM: CITY ESTIMATES OF SUPPLEMENTARY ASSESSMENT AND REVENUE FROM TAXES FOR 1995 ARE UP BY ALMOST 40% FROM LAST YEAR. THIS MEANS MORE NEW BUSINESSES OPENING. THERE IS LESS VACANT COMMERCIAL SPACE.

THERE IS AN INCREASE IN BUILDING APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS AT THE CITY --- ALL OF WHICH IS GOOD NEWS.

WE GOT THE TORONTO RAPTOR'S GOING INTO THE NEW AIR CANADA CENTRE APPROVED BY COUNCIL TWO MONTHS AGO. CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAPTOR'S STADIUM REALIZES THE DREAM OF CREATING A HOME FOR TORONTO'S FOURTH MAJOR LEAGUE SPORTS TEAM -- A BOAST THAT FEW CITIES IN THE WORLD CAN MAKE. AND THEY ARE ALL DOWNTOWN.

IN ADDITION TO OUR SPORT INDUSTRIES TORONTO CONTINUES TO DERIVE CONSIDERABLE BENEFIT FROM OUR ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.

WE ARE NOW THE THIRD LARGEST THEATRE CENTRE IN THE ENGLISH SPEAKING WORLD, AFTER NEW YORK AND LONDON. MANY PEOPLE WHO USED TO GO TO BROADWAY ARE NOW COMING OUR WAY.

TORONTO'S ENTERTAINMENT MENU IS BROAD AND VARIED FROM MAJOR MUSICALS TO STREET FESTIVALS TO SMALL THEATRES, WE ARE ALL ENRICHED BY THE VITALITY OF TORONTO'S ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK.

THE ENTERTAINMENT AND ARTS INDUSTRY IN TORONTO PROVIDES THOUSANDS OF JOBS AND OTHER IMPORTANT ECONOMIC SPIN-OFFS -- WHICH MUST BE PROTECTED.

WE ALMOST LOST HARBOURFRONT.

WHEN WILL WE LEARN THE CREATIVITY OF TORONTONIANS, IN THE THEATRE, IN THE FILM STUDIOS, IN TECHNOLOGY, IN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN -- AND OTHER AREAS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION -- STRENGTHEN OUR ECONOMY. AS MAYOR I WILL BE THERE TO PROTECT THE CULTURAL ASSETS OF OUR CITY.

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BEFORE I CLOSE I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DID NOT ADDRESS AN ISSUE OF TREMENDOUS CONCERN TO ALL CANADIANS.

ONE WEEK FROM TODAY OUR NEIGHBOURS IN QUEBEC WILL VOTE ON THEIR FUTURE.

IN MY FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE I HAVE MET, IN BOTH MONTREAL AND TORONTO, AND TALKED WITH PIERRE BORQUE, THE MAYOR OF MONTREAL TO ADDRESS ISSUES THAT CHALLENGE BOTH OUR URBAN COMMUNITIES.

WE HAVE MUCH IN COMMON AND I HOPE WE CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THOSE TIES IN A UNIFIED CANADA.

MANY OF YOU WHO HAVE MADE THIS COUNTRY GREAT ARE IN THIS ROOM TODAY, AND TORONTO IS A BENEFICIARY.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER, TO NURTURE THIS CITY.

WHEN ASKED WHY I WANTED TO BE MAYOR I SAID IT WAS BECAUSE I LOVE THIS CITY.

TORONTO IS THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD.

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO BE MAYOR OF THIS CITY AND I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH YOU AND EVERYONE IN THIS CITY TO CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY WE ALL TRULY LOVE.

THANK YOU.