



BREAD NOT CIRCUSES OLYMPIC REPORT CARD

PEOPLE'S SCORECARD -- COUNCIL MOTIONS

25 February 2000

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Council Motions	Olympic Master Plan	Bread Not Circuses Comments
OPEN AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bid process include a full and open public debate, to be fully and widely advertised (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • The Board of Directors of To-Bid hold open meetings except where matters require confidentiality (Miller 09/07/98) • The Olympic bid process will seek to be inclusive of all the people of Toronto (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • The Commissioner of EDCT submit a report on the composition, mandate, terms of reference of a City Council Task Force to provide oversight & independent assessment on the areas of social & fiscal responsibility for the Games (Ashton, 09/07/98) 	<p>Claims to be open and democratic and transparent</p> <p>Claims to have conducted exhaustive community consultation</p> <p>Claims to have open and public meetings</p>	<p>TO Bid refuses to debate with critics on CBC panel</p> <p>Public meetings poorly advertised and many cancelled due to lack of attendance. Board meetings are announced quietly, location often announced the day before. Public not allowed to ask questions, no significant discussion at board meetings. Executive Committee makes all the real decisions behind closed doors. Executive Committee is a small group of (mainly) white men w/ strong connections to Harris Government. No notice of when Executive Committee meets.</p> <p>No open and transparent plan for the next 18 months before the IOC vote, despite the fact that many of the same players from the '96 bid team are on the 2008 committee -- how will money be spent? Where is the protection against bribes and corruption? Will TO Bid use a financially responsible approach to the bid process or just wine and dine the IOC? Where is the council oversight?</p>
HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with all stakeholders in the housing & construction industry during the next 6 months to develop options to ensure that opportunities for long-term affordable housing are maximized from the accommodation to be built for the Games. That particular attention be paid to ensure that all accommodation is constructed to the highest environmental standards possible (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • City wants 25% of units for social and 25% affordable housings. 	<p>"create a legacy of a range & mix of new housing for Toronto", "housing is a complex issue that requires further discussion", "an on-going and substantive community consultation on the housing strategy", "a catalyst for housing".</p>	<p>After 4 years of planning, there is still no social or affordable housing plan. No Olympic revenues (TV rights or corporate sponsorships) will pay for housing. More concern has been shown for athletes' comfort for 16 days than for the appropriateness of the housing for Toronto households who that will occupy the new neighbourhoods. Public lands will be used to build housing later sold as high-priced condos. Expectations that private developers will build affordable rental housing is unrealistic - they are more concerned with profits than ethics. Not a catalyst - just an excuse. If the public will be paying for the social housing component, why wait 8 years, BUILD IT NOW!</p>
SOCIAL IMPACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive housing strategy be developed as the next stage of the bid taking into account the issues emerging in Sydney, Australia such strategy to be developed in conjunction with a broad range of stakeholders in the housing sector (Layton, 09/07/98) • The commission of EDCT be requested to submit a report to Council through the Economic Development Committee, in the fall of 1998, on a by-law & proposed strategy to ensure full protection for tenants and homeless persons during the hosting of the Olympic Games, particularly in areas adjacent to potential facilities such as South Parkdale (Miller, 09/07/99) • The City Council and Bidco agree to a set of principles which would update the Olympic commitments of the previous bid (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • Bid corporation to work with social planning agencies and city Staff to determine the best method to develop a full social impact assessment process for the Games and that this be prepared within the next six months (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • Interjurisdictional group to address the public safety issues (Jones, 09/07/98) • Variety of clauses on inclusion of ethno-specific community groups and minority-owned businesses be included (Pantalone, Davis, 09/07/98) • That Bid Corporation work with social planning agencies & consider the opportunity & viability of establishing social investment fund from the Games (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • That the bid undertake to address all issues & requirements related with the Paralympics (Pantalone, 04/03/98) 	<p>"will ensure systems are in place to provide advisory, mediation, advocacy and legal services to protect tenants & property owners" will develop a Residents' Bill of Rights to ensure no evictions leading up to the Olympic Games"</p>	<p>Empty promises and no action, the City wants to continue to study the problem. Olympics will bring loss of affordable housing stock and increase in housing costs in neighbourhoods next to Olympic venues due to speculative pressures. Harassment sweeps of homeless people off the streets (9,500 arrested in Atlanta), boarding houses converted to tourist hotels, increased violence against women. No Olympic revenues will go towards addressing the negative social impacts the Games will bring. There is no section of the budget devoted to protecting tenants and homeless people, just IOC members & elite athletes. City staff say that at a minimum some tenant protections will cost \$27M of City money. Our rights are being ripped away today -- panhandling laws target the poor, removal of rent controls and the end of social housing programs, increased homelessness, increased tenant evictions and cut backs to social assistance. Sports palaces with user fees won't benefit our children. Social recreation opportunities need to be made available now. End user fees in Toronto facilities. Social Impact Assessment commissioned by the bid was supposed to be completed a couple of months before council vote. Councillors will get only a preliminary hours before the vote, the final report will not be available until mid-March. Staff report recommending proceeding with the bid, claiming the risks were acceptable, was completed without the benefit of the Social Impact Assessment. To whom are the risks acceptable? Paralympic requirements are not included in the Master Plan (titled "Toronto 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games") Where is the social investment fund? Why is there no budget for the Paralympics, despite its use as a major selling point, and the much needed changes it advocates for?</p>
FINANCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bidco develop a financial strategy during the next 6 months which is realistic & attainable & which does not negatively impact on the tax rate & that this strategy be available for public consultation. Furthermore that the city & Bidco enter into discussions on the development of suitable financial accountability mechanisms between them & provide Council with accountability options to ensure protections for taxpayers & the City (Pantalone, 04/03/98) • That Bidco be requested to include in its due diligence process, an arms-length financial check for each stage of the process to obtain the 2008 Olympics (Layton, 04/03/98) • The City of Toronto withdraw its support of the Bid if the provision of satisfactory financial guarantees from other levels of government and satisfactory financial support from the private sector or otherwise for the city's liability under the Host City Agreement and the Olympic Charter have not been received before November 1999 (Miller, 09/07/1998) 	<p>Claims financial responsibility for only the building and operation of venues during the Games.</p> <p>Not responsible for costs of infrastructure (but takes credit for the jobs created). Claim to be able to keep capital costs down with "Guaranteed Maximum Price"</p> <p>Many costs based on Atlanta, plus inflation, although the TO Bid claims it does not want a Games like Atlanta</p>	<p>Budgets are not realistic, nor are they in anyway inclusive of all costs that will be incurred hosting the Games. Exclusions include land costs, soils remediation, major public transit improvements necessary only for the Games, costs of housing and Olympic plazas (more list available at BNC website). GMP has major exclusions including cost escalations, city approvals fees, and GST (\$48M for GST alone)</p> <p>No independent review of budgets - civil servant responsible for this at the city is also a member of the TO bid executive</p> <p>Financial guarantees from upper levels of government to date are worthless, guaranteeing against cost overruns, but not revenue shortfalls (the problem in Sydney now)</p> <p>Assurances that upper levels of government is of little comfort to the public - the monies that will be spent are all from the public purse, overruns will mean cutbacks in social programs</p> <p>Imaginary \$87M surplus has already slipped through the public's hands - min \$18M will be needed by the Paralympics, 40% of anything left will be split by IOC and COA.</p>