

1. TRANSPORTATION/TRANSIT:

Tackling gridlock and ensuring that we continue to support a reliable and sustainable public transit system is one my top five priorities. It helps clean our air, reduces gridlock and gives us more time to spend with our families and friends.

Over the past four years the Liberal Government has shown a real commitment, backed up by tangible results, to keeping us moving forward on this important issue.

Over the next four years, the recently announced \$17.5 billion long-term transit plan, *Move Ontario 2020*, will greatly improve all aspects of transit in our community. In addition, a third track will be added to the GO Lakeshore line between Port Credit station and Oakville station to help us get where we need to go faster. These plans, when combined with the new investments we have already seen to our highways, roads and transit systems will help us build a better Mississauga South.

I will work hard for our community to make sure that we do even more to improve the air we breathe and give us more quality time to spend with our families. I will keep up the pressure to make sure that we see a rapid transit system along the Lakeshore line and that transit networks across the GTA are integrated, reliable and sustainable.

2. CURRENT VALUE ASSESSMENTS:

Fairness and predictability are what people deserve when it comes to paying property taxes. Families need the ability to plan for their future. A fair, predicable property tax system helps families do just that.

I am proud to be part of the Liberal team that has taken action on this issue. As a result of the 2007 budget and improvements to the appeals process, property owners will not see sudden increases that put pressure on their savings.

With respect to airport payments, I will be an advocate at Queens Park and work with the City of Mississauga and the Federal Government to ensure that our community receives the fair share of tax revenues from the airport. I am pleased to say the Province recently passed legislation to enable Tax Increment Financing (TIF) as a new fiscal tool for municipalities to assist with brownfield redevelopment and public infrastructure development. TIF is being introduced on a pilot basis and I will make sure the province continues to work closely with our municipal partners in reviewing its effectiveness.

3. MUNICIPAL SERVICES/GTA POOLING:

Downloading of social service costs to municipal taxpayers was one way the previous government 'balanced' the books. That was wrong. And, the burden of GTA pooling on our city has been significant.

I am proud to be a member of the Liberal team that has: put us on course to end the unfair GTA pooling introduced by the Conservatives; uploaded, and not downloaded, services such as public health funding and ambulance services; and is working with the City of Mississauga through the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review.

It is vitally important for the different levels of government to work together to ensure that our communities remain the best places to live, work and raise a family. I look forward to working with the City of Mississauga, because I know that together we can continue to achieve great things.