August 11, 2020

President Finance Commission City of Montreal

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am a proud resident of the Borough of Cote des Neiges - Notre Dame de Grace, and I would like to thank you for all your good work that you do for our borough and city.

If possible I would like to bring to your attention a few things.

- 1. I could not find all your documents in English so this memo is based on the French language documents that were published by the City.
- 2. I want the City to know that as a citizen and taxpayer I find municipal taxes the most onerous of all. We are modest homeowners and our municipal taxes in our neighborhood are among the highest in Canada and have rising noticeably the last two years. We don't blame our Borough Council which has not imposed any special tax but the City administration which has increased spending far beyond inflation.

We do not want this to continue. Our family thus opposes any effort to allow the City to run a deficit. We propose that there be a one year moratorium on all major infrastructure projects and that there be a tax freeze in 2021.

There are too many needless organizations and departments in the City of Montreal and too much spending on questionable services. We would like to see cuts to various non-essential municipal functions.

The City budget is full of fat. Since the new administration has taken office, it has tried to substitute the municipality for the Governments of Canada and Quebec spending on poverty and housing that is outside our jurisdiction.

If this consultation is real, someone should understand that the middle class in our city is being squeezed beyond its capacity. Please no deficit in 2021, no tax increase.

Yours truly,

Elchonon Katzenellenbogen