



Toronto Youth Cabinet
100 Queen Street West
15th Floor, East Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Email: info@thetyc.ca
Website: thetyc.ca

November 20th, 2016

Members of Council,

As the City of Toronto's official youth advisory body we, the Toronto Youth Cabinet, are writing to convey our concern over this year's budget direction. A 2.6 percent cut to the City's Budget will have a significant impact on the lives of the city's youth, especially those in marginalized communities.

Toronto's youth heavily rely on the services provided by the Toronto Public Library, Toronto Public Health, the Toronto Community Housing Corporation, and the Toronto Transit Commission. The proposed budget reductions to these divisions mean cuts to library service, loss of snack programs in schools, closure of TCHC units, cuts to youth programs, and service cuts to the TTC, as well as a possible fare increase. This budget cut would make it harder for youth, and other marginalized communities, to break the cycle of poverty. Toronto is the child poverty capital of Canada.

We also ask that you closely examine revenue tools as a way to generate dollars rather than cuts. Now is the time for true leadership from Council. We must look to build our city and our citizens up, and not just follow the status quo that is hurting so many young Torontonians. The Toronto Youth Cabinet is dedicated to working with staff, Councillors, and Mayor Tory to build a more equitable and youth-friendly Toronto.

Sincerely,

Riley Peterson
Budget Lead

Tom Gleason
Executive Director