

# The minutes

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*Here's some of the business tackled by Toronto city council Wednesday.*

## APPROVED

An auditor general's probe into why city officials kept quiet during the strike that sick-time bank liability had ballooned to \$450 million, up by \$200 million. The mayor's office was alerted to the accounting mistake, but councillors were not. There was no debate.

Naming Trinidad-born Dionne Brand the city's poet laureate, succeeding Pier Giorgio di Ciccio. The three-year post comes with an annual honorarium of \$10,000. Brand, who arrived in Toronto at 17 and is an English professor at the University of Guelph, has published nine volumes of poetry and won the 2006 Toronto Book Award for her novel *What We All Long For*.

Six "shovel-ready" affordable housing projects that would create 1,253 units, many of them for seniors, new immigrants and victims of domestic violence. The city has submitted the \$150.4 million proposal in hopes of getting cash from a \$540 million federal-provincial economic stimulus fund. It's up to the province to okay the funding.

A pilot project creating a new \$200 annual parking permit for car-sharing companies.

## ON THE RECORD

"This is a good thing for the city. Let's move on. That's why nothing gets done in the city because we just keep debating it."

*Councillor Frances Nunziata during a hours-long debate on funding for the Transit City network.*

"I would love to have a street named after me, but I'm prepared to wait until the policy kicks in, until I die."

*Councillor Howard Moscoe on a proposal to name streets in a new subdivision in his ward after living individuals, violating city policy.*

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Council will debate Thursday whether to accept \$17 million from Cadillac Fairview for a new community centre in exchange for permission to build 1,387 condo units in the Don Mills Centre development.