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NEWS RELEASE

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WHO'S IN CHARGE?

Tax 'add-on' puts property tax bill 130% over Miller's promise

TORONTO (March 25, 2008) – You can't get the numbers wrong twice in the same budget and expect to hold onto your job as Budget Chief. The Toronto Party is demanding the resignation of City of Toronto Budget Chief Shelley Carroll following last week's announcement that residential property taxes will likely rise by approximately 4.1 per cent rather than the 3.75 per cent when the budget was announced.

Earlier this year, Carroll and Mayor David Miller were caught looking the other way when it was discovered that the budget's fine print included a more than 30 per cent increase in user fees for ice rinks and other recreational facilities. Last week's proposed tax add-on is more than double the rate of inflation that Miller promised to hold all future tax hikes at during the last campaign.

"Miller math is spinning out of control at City Hall," said Stephen Thiele, co-founder of The Toronto Party. "Neither Miller nor Carroll have been straight with the taxpayers since this so-called 'balanced' budget was announced. Somebody has to be accountable and that is the Budget Chief. She's got to go."

The Toronto Party will be running candidates in each of the city's 44 wards in the 2010 municipal election, and is promising a more accountable and transparent budgetary process. "There will be no hidden clauses and nobody will have to break out a magnifying glass to scour the fine print," Thiele pointed out.

For more information or to request an interview, please contact The Toronto Party at media@thetorontoparty.com.