

I couldn't get support for two-term limits

Re: Parties can pump new blood into city politics, Dec. 3.

In his letter, Jean-François Claude states that he would support not only term limits, but also party politics for municipal councillors. I fully agree that a shake-up is needed at the municipal level of government.

I continually get comments from the public about the perceived ineffectuality of council and it is discouraging. I have been very vocal about the fact that a two-term limit should be instated and that we should re-divide up the wards to include four councillors who would run at large across the city.

For those who have sat around the council table for more than eight years, there is a feeling from the old guard of council of having "been there, done that."

I know that after two full terms I would be bored with the same job.

I do respect the perspective that the more experienced councillors bring to the table, but I feel that new blood

should be injected into council, too.

One of the biggest complaints I get is that city councillors focus too much of their attention on ward-specific issues, and are not concerned with citywide issues enough.

During our last governance review, I proposed a system which would have two tiers, so to speak. The city would be divided up into larger wards and councillors could run within those wards concentrating on ward specific issues and the city would then also be divided up into four areas, which would focus on city-wide issues such as mass transit, budget, and large infrastructure projects.

When I brought up these two very points and suggestions, feedback from around the council table was not supportive.

However, should legislation come down from above regarding term limits or councillors running at large, I would continue to be supportive these notions.

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