

T.O. strike standoff: Day 30

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Marcus Gee suggests Toronto is "becoming" dysfunctional. It's past "becoming" (Miller Has Nowhere To Turn - July 18).

About a year ago, I was convinced to move from Toronto. I'd been resisting, but I'd been travelling a lot and after comparisons with cities I'd visited (nice places - New York, Chicago, Vancouver, Prague, Tallinn), noticed Toronto just isn't well run. The wheels are off the axles, and left the rails some time ago. (Insert cliché here.)

I can't say we moved to a place in better shape (we're in London, a city in decline if I've ever seen one), but that's for family reasons.

The fact is, Toronto has become uncivil and expensive without being great: "New York without all the stuff," to quote *30 Rock*. I couldn't muster an argument to stay. You couldn't walk on the sidewalk because some self-righteous jerk on a bike would mow you down. People shoved you down the subway stairs. The TTC is in sad shape, roads are crumbling to the point that they fall on fools with the temerity to go under bridges. Now people insist that someone - someone else - cope with their waste during the strike.

Toronto the Good has become Toronto the Spoiled Adolescent. Neither David Miller nor anyone else can fix it, unless the population grows up and stops sulking.