

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**“Poetry in the Street” Project – Report Request**

**Moved by: Councillor Palacio**

**Seconded by: Councillor Soknacki**

**“WHEREAS** the City of Toronto has been, and is home to many great poets, authors and writers who have left a significant mark on the citizens of Toronto, Canada and the World; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Toronto has never had a significant tribute, that involves all communities across Toronto from all former municipalities, to Toronto’s poets or literary community, which is long overdue; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Toronto has a ‘Clean and Beautiful City’ mandate that Council is trying to find innovative and realistic ways to advance; and

**WHEREAS** bp Nichol Lane (Ward 20) was named for the late poet bp Nichol and one of his poems has been inscribed in the pavement there (picture attached) at very little cost to the City, much to the enjoyment of local residents, tourists and visitors; and

**WHEREAS** Pier Giorgio di Cicco, Toronto’s Poet Laureate and his advisory committee, Friends of the Poet Laureate, enthusiastically endorses this Motion as part of the Poet Laureate’s advocacy for poetry and the arts in our City;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** City Council request the Acting Commissioner Works and Emergency Services and the Commissioner Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, in consultation with the City of Toronto Poet Laureate and his Committee, to bring forward a report to implement a ‘Poetry in the Street’ program across the City that would imprint poems written by Toronto poets in sidewalks, parks and other public spaces across the City, similar to how it was done in bp Nichol Lane, when those sidewalks etc. are scheduled to be permanently reconstructed;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this report consider creating a ‘bank’ of poems that would be inscribed in sidewalks, etc., in all corners of the City, with the consent or at the request of the adjacent property owner(s), local BIA’s or Residents’ Associations, where applicable, as well as consider creating special theme areas in the City where there is a historical connection to a particular poet or type of poetry;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the report consider the possibility that this can be done across the entire City at virtually no cost, since the concrete is being laid anyway, as well as the potential of the program to generate tourism, promote culture and showcase certain areas of the City;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the necessary provisions of Chapter 27 of the City of Toronto Municipal Code be waived to permit introduction and debate of this Notice of Motion at the meeting of Council to be held on April 12, 2005.”

April 12, 2005

Attachment

According to Chapter 27 of the Municipal Code, the foregoing Notice of Motion:

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| Notice was previously given   |     |
| Meets Municipal Code provisions and only requires a simple majority to introduce and debate |     |
| Requires two-thirds to waive notice   | (v) |
| Requires two-thirds to re-open  |     |
| Fiscal Impact Statement provided  | *   |
| Should have Fiscal Impact Statement prior to debate   | *   |
| Requires two-thirds to waive requirement if Council wishes to debate                        |     |
| Should be referred to the Economic Development and Parks Committee                          | (v) |
| Requires two-thirds to waive referral if Council wishes to debate                           |     |
| Recommendations are time sensitive  |     |

\* Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to advise.