
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM38.13	ACTION			Ward: 11
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Property Tax Exemption for Society of Portuguese Disabled Persons Building Fund - by Councillor Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Palacio

- Notice of this Motion has been given.*
- This Motion is subject to referral to the Government Management Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Palacio, recommends that:

1. Toronto City Council support The Society of Portuguese Disabled Persons Building Fund in its efforts to obtain a Private Member's Bill to provide an exemption from property taxes.

Summary

The Society of Portuguese Disabled Persons Building Fund ("The Society") was formed in 2001 to help stimulate social activities for individuals with disabilities who may be housebound in the community. Unfortunately, these individuals are faced with many limitations and have few channels available to allow them to integrate with society.

In order to build a centre for all disabled persons regardless of ethnicity, the Society purchased the property at 2295 St. Clair Avenue West. The Centre was constructed at no cost to the government, until 2007 when The Society obtained a grant from the Provincial Government to assist the centre in purchasing some necessary equipment. Currently, the Centre owns and occupies the property at 2295 St. Clair Avenue West. The Society celebrated the grand opening of the centre on June 23, 2007.

The centre is now open from Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm and offers a variety of programs for people of all cultural and ethnic backgrounds with disabilities and provides support to their families. Through various programs, clients continue to learn social skills by group participation, building greater independence, self-esteem and facilitating integration within the community. These programs help to develop leadership skills which empower clients to be active and productive members of society.

The Society is a registered charity within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

The Society is seeking Private Legislation to provide an exemption from property taxes, and have asked that the City of Toronto support The Society in obtaining the Private Members Bill.

(Submitted to City Council on August 5, 2009 as MM38.13)

Background Information

Letter (April 23, 2009) from Andrew Paton on behalf of the Society of Portuguese Disabled Persons Building Fund

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-22630.pdf>