



Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM38.30	ACTION			Ward: 9
---------	--------	--	--	---------

Toronto to Join Town and Gown Association of Ontario - by Councillor Perruzza, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pantalone

*•This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.
Council has added this Motion to the agenda for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Perruzza, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pantalone, recommends that:

1. The City of Toronto become a member of the Town and Gown Association of Ontario.

Summary

The City of Toronto is the major urban centre in Canada and the capital City of Ontario. It also has three major universities and several colleges within its boundaries. Building cohesive communities requires us reaching out to these learning institutions and their students.

"Town & Gown" is a term which conveys the relationship between Universities and Colleges and the communities in which they are located. The relationships between these post-secondary institutions and cities can be mutually beneficial, but they can create challenges as well. A Town and Gown membership, at a cost annually of \$150, will give the City of Toronto a medium by which to establish a healthy discourse between its educational institutions and all the stakeholders in their communities, such as student organizations, citizens, community organizations, municipal departments and others.

The Village at York is a subdivision built on former York University lands and is a community comprised of both families and students alike. In order to help mediate some of the challenges this new community has faced, both York University and the Village at York Residents Association have joined the Town and Gown Association of Ontario. Membership in this honorary organization provides involvement in a beneficial forum and access to resources to help mitigate tensions between student communities and their host neighbourhoods. The Town and Gown Association of Ontario is currently comprised of over 60 organizations including cities, towns, universities, colleges, business organizations, and police associations, and the current makeup of their Board of Governors includes City Councillors, City Managers, Police and City By-law Enforcement Managers, and University Student Presidents.

(Submitted to City Council on August 5, 2009 as MM38.30)