
City Council

Motion without Notice

MM47.10	ACTION			Ward: All
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Providing Earthquake Relief for Chile - by Councillor Palacio, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pantalone

- * *Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
- * *This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- * *This Motion has been deemed urgent.*

Recommendations

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

1. City Council request the City Manager to consider the following proposals in his report to the May 17, 2010 meeting of the Executive Committee on the appropriate assistance and response for the City of Toronto in keeping with the City of Toronto's International Disaster Relief Policy:
 - a. That City Council recognize *Chile CAN Rise* as the official collective organization for the Chilean relief efforts in Toronto, and that the report outline how City Council may assist them and other organizations in the Chilean-Canadian community in their efforts.
 - b. That the City Manager, as requested by *Chile CAN Rise*, report on the feasibility of Toronto twinning or having a technical partnership with the City of Lota. The City of Lota is largely at an economic disadvantage, and has been tremendously affected by the earthquake and tsunami on the Pacific coast.
 - c. That the City of Toronto urge the Government of Canada to increase significantly the \$2 million set aside for earthquake relief, specifically that the Federal Government be requested to match the money raised by Chilean Canadians private donations to relief efforts.
 - d. That the City of Toronto urge the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to adopt this Motion, and take whatever action it deems necessary to recognize the City of Lota for technical support, as it may relate to CIDA.

Summary

Chilean-Canadians and residents of Toronto are united in grief and shock at the magnitude caused by the massive earthquake that struck off the coast of Chile and those whose lives were lost in the destruction. Our thoughts are with the families who have lost their homes and those who are still looking for or have lost loved ones. We also remember the Chilean people who are coping under terrible circumstances. This Motion is intended to express Toronto's support for the rebuilding efforts underway and to offer assistance, if possible, in conformance with Toronto's International Disaster Relief Policy.

On March 3rd, 2010 Chile CAN Rise officially formed. Chile CAN Rise is a coalition of Chilean-Canadian organizations (most of whom are Toronto-based) joining forces to coordinate fundraising, public relations and humanitarian support. It will also lobby the Canadian and Chilean governments for action in the areas most affected by the quake.

The Executive Committee has requested the City Manager to report to the Committee in May with respect to the City's Disaster Relief Policy and how it could be applied to both Haiti and Chile. This Motion asks the City Manager to consider various proposals in that report.

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