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**City Council**

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**Notice of Motion**

MM49.8	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Evaluation of the Graffiti Abatement Strategy - by Councillor Bussin, seconded by Councillor Thompson**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Licensing and Standards Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Bussin, seconded by Councillor Thompson, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, in consultation with the City Solicitor and the Toronto Police Service, to report to the Licensing and Standards Committee on an evaluation of the City's Graffiti Abatement Strategy and provide additional solutions to the graffiti problem, such report to also include a review of the experience and success of the graffiti abatement strategies employed by the Cities of London, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

**Summary**

In 2005, City Council approved a Graffiti Abatement Strategy for both private and public property as part of the Clean and Beautiful City Initiative. The strategy sought to eradicate graffiti from the City based on the principles of leadership, prevention, eradication, enforcement and community empowerment. Council subsequently adopted Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 485, Graffiti, which implemented the approved strategy.

Other Canadian municipalities have also taken steps to eradicate graffiti, such as the City of London, which has passed a by-law to prohibit the sale of spray paint to minors, and the Cities of Vancouver and Winnipeg, which have processes in place to patrol and remove graffiti from public and private properties.

Although the City of Toronto's approach has yielded some positive results over the past five years, graffiti continues to be a problem in our communities. We have an opportunity to learn from both our own experience and the experience of other jurisdictions in dealing with this problem.

We should evaluate the success of our Graffiti Abatement Strategy, review the lessons learned and explore additional solutions that can help us achieve the goal of preserving our public assets and beautifying our urban landscape.

(Submitted to City Council on May 11 and 12, 2010 as MM49.8)