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**City Council**

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**Notice of Motion**

MM51.5	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Park Bench Dedicated to the Memory of Al Gosling - by Councillor Ford, seconded by Councillor Mammoliti**

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

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Toronto and East York Community Council. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Ford, seconded by Councillor Mammoliti, recommends that:

1. City Council direct Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff to install a park bench dedicated to the memory of Al Gosling.
2. City Council direct Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff to install the bench in Sherbourne Common or Allan Gardens or another suitable location to be determined in consultation with Peter Crawford.
3. City Council direct that the costs associated with the bench be raised through private donations to the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Commemorative Tree and Bench Program.

**Summary**

Mr. Al Gosling was a tenant of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation, at 11 Arleta Avenue, for 21 years before his eviction and subsequent death from health complications on October 11, 2009.

The recent release of the LeSage Report has emphasized the importance of improving our efforts to protect the vulnerable of our society.

In particular, the report recognizes that the Toronto Community Housing Corporation has an obligation to tenants as their landlord, but also a larger obligation to serve the community as a whole through its mandate “to provide quality housing for low and moderate income households and to create community conditions that minimize risk and promote resiliency.”

A park bench dedicated to the memory of Mr. Al Gosling will serve to remind us all of the importance of protecting our most vulnerable residents and that we live up to the standards that we have set for ourselves.

(Submitted to City Council on July 6 and 7, 2010 as MM51.5)