

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM41.14	ACTION			Ward:All
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Requesting the Province of Ontario to provide a briefing and consultation with Toronto on the terms of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Province of Ontario to provide the City of Toronto with a clear and comprehensive briefing on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), as soon as possible.
2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to engage in a full consultation process with the City of Toronto and reserve for Council the right to debate, and ultimately vote, on the terms of the deal as it relates to the City of Toronto before any approval of the deal is issued by the Province.

Summary

On October 18, 2013, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that the Government of Canada and the European Union have reached an agreement in principle under the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

In 2012, City Council passed item EX16.2, headed "Request to protect City of Toronto interests and existing powers in any trade agreement signed between the Government of Canada and the European Union", which made a number of requests to the Province of Ontario and the Federal Government relating to the CETA. This request was echoed by a number of other Ontario municipal councils calling on the Provincial and Federal government to protect the rights and interests of these cities and towns.

This agreement has far reaching implications for City procurement policies and could negatively affect City initiatives such as: promoting local jobs, creating financial incentives for the film industry or development industry to invest in Toronto, or to use public spending as a

tool for economic development, environmental protection or to support small businesses.

Before the agreement comes into effect, the City of Toronto should be engaged in a consultation process with the Province of Ontario in order for the City to understand the full impacts of the agreement and should be allowed to debate and vote on the terms of the deal that directly impact the City of Toronto.

(Submitted to City Council on November 13 and 14, 2013 as MM41.14)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM41.14