



**City Council**

**Notice of Motion**

MM2.3	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Congratulations to Joseph Daniel Votto - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Deputy Mayor Doug Holyday**

*Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*This Motion is subject to referral to the Etobicoke York Community Council. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Deputy Mayor Doug Holyday, recommends that:

1. Toronto City Council congratulate Joseph Daniel Votto for his achievement as the National Baseball League’s Most Valuable Player recipient of the League’s Hank Aaron Award for the 2010 season, recipient of the 2010 Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Tip O’Neill Award, and recipient of the 2010 Lou Marsh Memorial Trophy.

**Summary**

Joey Votto is the hard-hitting first baseman for the Cincinnati Reds whom he led to the National League World Series Playoffs this year. His achievement carries the distinction to be named as winner of the Hank Aaron Award which accompanies this annual major league ritual.

The selection and award is decided by vote of the members of the Major League Baseball Writers’ Association to recognize one player above all others judged to be “most valuable” to his team. Mr. Votto’s statistics for the season include a 3.24 batting average; 113 runs batted in; 106 runs scored; topped off with 37 home runs to lead his team in all hitting categories.

Joey Votto has also been named Canada's Top Baseball Player in 2010. On December 10, Mr. Votto was named the winner of this year's Tip O'Neill Award from the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. The award is given to the Canadian Baseball player "judged to have excelled in individual achievement and team contribution while adhering to the highest ideals of the game of baseball. The award is named for Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame member James "Tip" O'Neill.

On December 14, 2010 Mr. Votto was named winner of the 2010 Lou Marsh Memorial Trophy, awarded annually to Canada's top athlete, professional or amateur. The honour — decided by a panel of Canadian sports editors, reporters and broadcasters — is given annually to Canada's outstanding athlete by the Toronto Star. It is named in honour of Lou Marsh, a prominent Canadian athlete, referee, and former sports editor of the Toronto Star.

Votto, born in the former City of Etobicoke, is a graduate of Richview Collegiate and a proud product of the Etobicoke Minor Baseball League. Most of his youthful exploits took place in Connorvale Park located in the Alderwood section of Etobicoke as he worked his way up the ladder to be drafted by Cincinnati. He then perfected his skills in their farm team system and arrived in the Major Leagues as an accomplished professional player. He is a most worthy recipient early in his career of this acknowledgement of his baseball prowess.

He was also a key member of the Canadian team in the 2009 World Baseball Classic.

(Submitted to City Council on December 16, 2010 as MM2.3)