TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM7.15	ACTION			Ward: All

Federal Responsibility for G20 Impacts - by Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

**** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.***
**** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral.***
**** This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.***

Recommendations

Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to appeal to the government of Canada in order to clarify the rules for compensation and to advocate for an appeal process to be set up in order to help affected businesses gain appropriate and fair compensation for commercial and retail taxpayers and property owners impacted by the G20.

2. City Council request that the City Manager report back to Council if and when the Government of Canada responds.

Summary

On June 26 and 27, 2010, the Government of Canada hosted the annual G20 Summit (G20) in Toronto. The G20 was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC), in downtown Toronto which was selected for its accessibility, size, security features and technological infrastructure.

Downtown Toronto was under siege. Residents could not leave their homes. Visitors were discouraged from coming downtown, and a significant portion of the core was cut off behind a wall. Thousands of businesses were impacted, both by vandalism and loss of revenue.

The Government of Canada announced an ex-gratia program for compensation for losses suffered as a result of the G20 summit. However, this was limited to businesses within the security perimeter that stayed open during the summit. Many Toronto businesses outside of the perimeter experienced financial impacts from the summit.

371 applications for ex-gratia payments were filed by Toronto businesses, with claims totaling $10,656,869.

Only a few of these Toronto businesses have received compensation offers, offers which

represent only a few cents on the dollar of each claim. In one case, a claim for more than $300,000 in lost revenue, received compensation of only a little more than $6,000 with no right of appeal. This is not acceptable to the business community, to the people of Toronto or City Council.

(Submitted to City Council on April 12 and 13, 2011 at MM7.15)