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**City Council**

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**Motion without Notice**

MM10.15	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Calling for flexibility in application of Provincial Ministry of Health and Long-term Care “Operating Procedures for Non-Regulated Recreational Water Facilities Guidance Document” in Toronto’s wading pools - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette**

- \* Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
- \* This Motion is subject to referral to the Community Development and Recreation Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- \* This Motion has been deemed urgent.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to allow flexibility in the application of “Operating Procedures for Non-Regulated Recreational Water Facilities Guidance Document” in Toronto’s wading pools by allowing pools to remain filled for five hours prior to draining.
2. City Council request the Medical Officer of Health to also show flexibility in the application of the Provincial “Operating Procedures for Non-Regulated Recreational Water Facilities Guidance Document”.
3. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to be prepared to restore the five hour wading pool schedule in the event the Province permits the pools to remain filled for five hours prior to draining.

**Summary**

The Provincial Ministry of Health developed the “Operating Procedures for Non-regulated recreational Water Facilities Guidance Document” in 2010. It is now being applied to Toronto’s wading pools.

Section 3.2 of the new Provincial Guidance Document requires wading pools to be drained after four hours. Many of Toronto’s wading pools have operated on a five hour schedule.

There is no evidence to suggest Toronto standards were unreasonable and that children’s health was in any way being compromised in the five hour schedule. The City of Toronto wading pools have operated safely under stringent conditions with water tested every hour.

City Council should consider this Motion as soon as possible, given that the summer season is short and wading pools are a safe and enjoyable part of summer fun for thousands of Toronto tykes.

(Submitted to City Council on July 12 and 13, 2011 as Member Motion MM10.15)