TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM22.1	ACTION			Ward:All

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the 1972 Canada-Russia Series that Changed Hockey and Relations between our Two Countries - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon

**** Notice of this Motion has been given.***
**** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.***

Recommendations

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to report to City Council on a strategy such that:

    a. Toronto can host events, ceremonies and recognitions of the 40th Anniversary of the Canada-Russia Hockey Series that took place in September 1972;

    b. working with the City of Toronto Partnership Office, staff can assess the degree to which these series of events can be funded in whole or part by corporate partners in the Greater Toronto Area;

    c. a strategic working group can be assembled that would include various partners, stakeholders in the sports and corporate community to play a leadership role in this endeavour;

    d. any plan moving forward includes intergovernmental strategic partnerships with federal and provincial counterparts; and

    e. cultural exchange and economic opportunities can be leveraged such that this great sporting event grows as an enduring legacy between our two great countries.

Summary

The 8-game exhibition hockey series between Canada and the Soviet Union in September 1972 was perhaps the most transformative sporting event of that generation. To this date, the events

of that hockey series have forever changed the game of hockey and enhanced the growing bonds between our two great countries. Toronto hosted one of the 8 games, staged the welcome home reception, and provided many of the key players that shaped the result. Toronto should play a leadership role in recognizing this event and driving efforts to hold events recognizing it.

(Submitted to City Council on April 10 and 11, 2012 as MM22.1)