

**City Council****Notice of Motion**

MM23.8	ACTION			Ward:All
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**Increasing Autism Awareness - by Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio**

*\* 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 Giorgio Mammoliti, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio, recommends that:

1. City Council formally endorse Autism Ontario’s “Ontario Rides for Autism” event on Sunday, June 10, 2012.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to report to the Executive Committee on how the City can support Autism Ontario and its activities.

**Summary**

Autism Ontario is a leading source of information. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support to thousands of families across Toronto and the Province. The main objective of Autism Ontario is to increase public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues of individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. One in 110 children are diagnosed with autism – this figure continues to increase.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) currently affects the lives of over 20,000 Toronto residents and 80,000 Ontarians. It is often said that “if you’ve met one person with ASD, you’ve met one person with ASD.” A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD.

On Sunday June 10, 2012 Autism Ontario will be hosting the “Ontario Rides for Autism” fundraiser. The goal of the ride is to increase awareness for this underfunded cause.

The City of Toronto currently endorses several events and charities, but this scope should be increased. Autism awareness must be increased; this is not an objective that the City of Toronto can complete on its own.

(Submitted to City Council on May 8 and 9, 2012 as MM23.8)

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM23.8