TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM26.27	ACTION			Ward:All

International Day of the Girl, October 11, 2012 - by Councillor Pam McConnell, 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 Pam McConnell, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council proclaim October 11, 2012 as Day of the Girl in Toronto and urge all citizens to support and participate in programs and events to improve the lives of girls everywhere.

Summary

The current worldwide generation of young people is the largest in human history, with nearly half the world's population—more than 3 billion people—under the age of 25, of which approximately 51 percent or 1.51 billion are female.

Sixty percent of girls say that they experience stereotypes that limit their right to be themselves; 52 percent of girls say they experience stereotypes that limit their right to express themselves with originality and enthusiasm; more than a third (37 percent) of girls feel constrained by these stereotypes, saying they don't like them.

Gender equality is a fundamental right for all people as well as a cornerstone of global development, as research shows that investing in girls can create a ripple effect that not only improves the lives of girls but also benefits the economic growth and the health and well-being of communities.

The United Nations has declared October 11, 2012 as the first International Day of the Girl Child. Canada has led the international community in adopting this day, with the full support of the Government of Canada and the Minister for Status of Women. The day is also endorsed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

This Motion is urgent as International Day of the Girl is prior to the next meeting of City Council.

(Submitted to City Council on October 2 and 3, 2012, as MM26.27)