Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM27.16	ACTION			Ward:All

Support of Bill C-394: An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the National Defence Act (criminal organization recruitment) by Mayor Rob Ford, seconded by Councillor John Parker

Communication MM27.16.1 has been submitted on this Item

Recommendations

Mayor Rob Ford, seconded by Councillor John Parker, recommends that:

1. City Council affirm its continued commitment to reducing criminal gang activity in the City of Toronto by supporting the passage of Bill C-394: An act to amend the Criminal Code and the National Defence Act (criminal organization recruitment) by the Government of Canada, the effect of which would be to make it unlawful to recruit a young person into a criminal organization.

2. City Council direct the City Clerk to forward this Motion to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services and leaders of elected parties in Parliament.

Summary

Toronto is by and large a safe city. However, our streets are too often witness to gang violence. Whether recruited into a life of violence and crime within a criminal organization, or injured or killed as victims of gang violence, too many of our young people have their lives and potential destroyed by criminal gangs.

Membership in a criminal organization is illegal. The recruitment of promising young people, of our sons and daughters, into criminal organizations should be illegal too.

Bill C-394 is a Private Member's Bill that would make it unlawful to recruit young people into a criminal organization. The Bill has government support and is expected to receive Third Reading in the House of Commons before the end of November.

City Council should affirm its support for this Bill. As the Bill may be considered by Parliament before Council's next meeting, Council should consider it as an urgent item.

(Submitted to City Council on October 30 and 31, 2012 as MM27.16)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM27.16
Bill C-394 - An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the National Defence Act (criminal organization recruitment)
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-51608.pdf)

Communications (City Council)

(October 31, 2012) Submission from Councillor Adam Vaughan - extract of Proceedings from Parliament with respect to Bill C-394 (MM.New.MM27.16.1)
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/mm/comm/communicationfile-32684.pdf)