



REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Thoughtful Collaboration with Ontario Municipalities

Date:	February 27, 2013
To:	Executive Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All Wards

City Council Decision

City Council on February 20 and 21, 2013, referred Motion MM30.17 to the Executive Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to report to the Executive Committee in June 2013 on the intergovernmental relationship benefits and the economic benefits of rejoining the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) as well as possible costs and time frames involved in rejoining the Association

Summary

The City of Toronto withdrew its membership in the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in 2004. At the time, we existed in what the Premier of Ontario publicly admitted was "A Legislative Straightjacket that Would Baffle Houdini".

To further irritate matters, AMO was entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Province that left unclear the City of Toronto's ability to negotiate any improvements in our legislative and fiscal relationship with the Province.

Recently, AMO and its Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) have demonstrated they are a beneficial venue for thoughtful collaboration between cities as well as a useful venue for each municipality to have one-on-one meetings with appropriate Provincial Ministers and Ministry staff.

Those issues that were most difficult to negotiate have been addressed through the City of Toronto Act and the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Sustainability Review, and a new Regional Municipal conversation is starting not only in the GTA but throughout Ontario and through the Large Urban Mayors Caucus on such pressing issues as regional revenue tools and transit expansion.

(Submitted to City Council on February 20 and 21, 2013 as MM30.17)