TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM33.29	ACTION			

Scotiabank Toronto Caribbean Carnival - by Councillor Michael Thompson, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

**** 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 Michael Thompson, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to request the Chief of the Toronto Police Service to ensure that his staff/officers are working co-operatively with the Festival Management Committee - Scotiabank Toronto Caribbean Carnival in establishing the safety plan for the parade (which includes the set time when the gates are closed).

2. City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to request the Chief of Police to ensure that during the day of the parade the onsite officers abide by the agreed upon time for gate closure which have been established and agreed to during planning discussions.

Summary

The Scotiabank Toronto Caribbean Carnival is one of the City's premier events of the summer attracting well over one million participants (over 48 percent are from outside Toronto) who have an economic impact of over $400 million in economic activity to the City of Toronto, Federal and Provincial economies.

This festival, which had its inception in 1967, has graced the streets of Toronto for the past 45 years and 2013 will be the 46th year.

The parade of the bands moved from University Avenue to the grounds of the Exhibition Place about 21 years ago, where it staged the beginning of the parade which then proceeded west along the Lakeshore Boulevard where it concludes.

The planning for this event is a year long process. In previous years, through the discussion which take place during the planning process, it has been established that 6pm is the time at which the gates are closed for the parade. However, onsite Toronto Police Service officers have made arbitrary decisions to close the gates earlier without consultation with the Scotiabank Toronto Caribbean Carnival parade and management staff on site during the parade. This year during the planning meetings there is a discussion that this year the gates should be

closed at 4pm. The action will have a negative impact on the parade participants and visitors who have come out to watch the parade and participate in the events.

(Submitted to City Council on May 7 and 8, 2013 as MM33.29)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM33.29