

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM36.9	ACTION			Ward:All
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Honouring former Toronto MP Lynn McDonald by Recognizing the 25th Anniversary of Bill C-204, the Non-Smokers' Health Act - by Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** 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 Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council convey its congratulations to former MP Lynn McDonald, as well as the health activists and experts who were involved in supporting Bill C-204, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Non-Smokers' Health Act.

Summary

Bill C-204, and the government's Bill C-51, turned 25 on May 31, 2013, on the World Health Organization's 'World No Tobacco Day'.

This historic legislation made Canada a world leader in tobacco control, improved the health of millions of Canadians, and showed that co-operation across party lines, through a Private Member's Bill, could be effective.

Introduced by Toronto MP Lynn McDonald, Bill C-204 was given first reading on October 6, 1986. The act proposed to limit smoking in federally regulated workplaces, as well as on planes, trains and boats. It also placed greater regulations on the advertising and sale of tobacco.

Debate was strung out for several months according to the rules of Private Members' business. On May 20, 1987, Bill C-204 survived second reading, and was approved on May 31, 1988 after protracted committee hearings, by a vote of 77 to 58. Bill C-204 was given Senate approval and royal assent on June 18, 1988.

This legislation was a significant public health initiative that required considerable cross-party support in order to be approved. Thanks to the popular support for Bill C-204, the government gave up its opposition after the Bill was approved and brought in housekeeping amendments agreed to by all parties to bring the Act into force.

(Submitted to City Council on June 11 and 12, 2013 as MM 36.9)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM36.9