

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM39.30	ACTION			Ward:All
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International Day of the Girl Child, October 11th - by Councillor Joe Mihevc, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll

- * 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 Joe Mihevc, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council designate October 11th as the "International Day of the Girl Child", to be observed every year beginning in 2013 and urge all residents 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 as the annual 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, and is endorsed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

(Submitted to City Council on October 8 and 9, 2013 as MM39.30)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM39.30