

"In Service" Maintaining Charitable and Community Services when Churches are Sold

Date:	February 27, 2014
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All Wards

City Council Decision

City Council on February 19 and 20, 2014, referred Motion MM48.9 to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Joe Mihevc, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Cluster A, to create an inventory of facilities and programs funded by the City located in churches across Toronto.
2. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Cluster A, to report to the June 25, 2014 meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee with options for maintaining charitable and community services in their existing locations when a church is sold.

Summary

Across the City, churches have traditionally played a vital role in our communities by providing social programs and services for those in need. The network of services include child care facilities, parent-child resource centres, affordable housing units, meal and shelter programs, and other community supports. Quite often these services receive funding through the City.

Many churches are now being put up for sale, and unfortunately there are no provisions to consider the social services the community relies on and ensure they are maintained after the sale. The loss of these services puts additional strain on City resources and can come as a surprise to those who rely on the services in their daily lives.

(Submitted to City Council on February 19 and 20, 2014 as MM48.9)