

REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

Date:	April 4, 2014
To:	Executive Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All Wards

City Council Decision

City Council on April 1, 2 and 3, 2014, referred Motion MM50.5 to the Executive Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Deputy Mayor Norman Kelly, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Director, Toronto Office of Partnerships and the Toronto Public Art Commission to work with representatives from the Armenian National Committee of Toronto to determine the resources needed and best location for a monument commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Summary

The Armenian Genocide was the systematic extermination by the Ottoman Empire of its minority Armenian subjects. This atrocity took place during and after World War I and the number of people killed has been estimated at between 1 and 1.5 million.

The Armenian Genocide is commemorated on April 24th each year, the date in 1915 the Ottoman Government arrested over 200 Armenian community leaders in Constantinople. They were sent to prison in Anatolia, where most were summarily executed. Thereafter, thousands upon thousands were subjected to forced labour, massacred or deported.

Toronto's Armenian Community via the Armenian National Committee of Toronto would like to erect a monument to commemorate this significant anniversary and its Canadian significance. Some potential locations have been identified by the community and they are prepared to either donate an existing monument or go through the process of having one commissioned.

(Submitted to City Council on April 1 and 2, 2014 as MM50.5)