

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM51.21	ACTION			Ward:All
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"The Maple Leaf Forever" - Reusing the Wood from the Maple Leaf Forever Tree - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Government Management Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, recommends that:

1. City Council thank Urban Forestry for its efforts to preserve the Maple Leaf Forever tree for saplings and wood re-use.
2. City Council direct the City Clerk, in consultation with the Chief Corporate Officer, to utilize the wood from the Maple Leaf Forever tree to build a new podium for the City Council Chamber, to be ready for the Inaugural Meeting of the new City Council in December 2014 and that the City Clerk's Office and Facilities Management cooperate to ensure this is accomplished.

Summary

The Maple Leaf is Canada's symbol of pride and country. In 1867, Alexander Muir wrote "The Maple Leaf Forever" after having found a beautiful leaf from a silver maple.

Since then the Maple Leaf has become a symbol of our great country and is recognized the world over on our flag. It all started in Leslieville when Alexander Muir, the principal of the Leslie Street School, recognized the significance of the maple leaf to Canada and penned the Maple Leaf Forever.

Alexander Muir planted a Silver Maple at his home on Laing Street in Leslieville which is an historic home now owned by the City.

In the severe wind storm of July 19, 2013 this gracious and grand old tree blew down.

Through the efforts of Urban Forestry and Economic Development and Culture, the tree is preserved with saplings and in preserving the wood for other uses. On April 26, 2014 one

sapling was planted at the Leslieville School to mark its 150th anniversary.

In preserving the wood for other uses, the House of Commons will be using the wood for a Speaker's mace. The City of Toronto should be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to commemorate our City's heritage.

(Submitted to City Council on May 6 and 7, 2014 as MM51.21)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM51.21