

## MEMO

To: Community Development and Recreation Committee

Attention: Nancy Martins, Secretary

From: James Pasternak, Chair and Councillor

Re: Filling the position of Youth Equity Champion

Date: January 14, 2015

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### Introduction:

One of the transformative recommendations of the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy report states that "The City of Toronto will coordinate policy and program planning between its youth serving areas." A sub recommendation is for Toronto City Council to appoint a City Councillor as a Youth Equity Champion. The report states that "The Youth Equity Champion will support and promote the work of the Strategy with fellow councillors, other orders of government, and residents across Toronto."

### Recommendation

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommend to Toronto City Council the appointment of Councillor Joe Cressy as Youth Equity Champion 2015-2019.

### Background

The Toronto Youth Equity Strategy (TYES) was unanimously adopted by City Council on February 19, 2014 <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.CD26.2>. The TYES recognizes that not all of Toronto's youth live in the same context of opportunity and support and when solutions are designed to meet the complex needs of the most high risk youth, all youth benefit. The TYES targets young people (aged 13 to 29) who are most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence and crime by taking steps to better coordinate youth service delivery in Toronto, and by identifying specific service enhancements to achieve equity in outcomes for these youth.