

**Ward 10**

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Date: May 11, 2015

To: Executive Committee Members

From: Councillor James Pasternak

Re: Explore – A Pilot Project for experiential learning, transport from Toronto's Strong and Emerging Neighbourhood to Toronto's attractions and events

Experiential learning and the opportunity to discover new ideas, inventions and worlds represents a vital part of engaging in one's city. It is incumbent on the City of Toronto to leverage the inquisitive minds of future generations.

Such opportunities are not universal as many school age children in Strong and Emerging neighbourhoods do not have the access or financial resources to explore Toronto's museums, galleries, outdoor attractions, live theatre and sporting events.

Recommendations:

That City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Cluster A, to develop and report to the Executive Committee on a framework for a pilot Explore program for school age children in Strong and Emerging neighbourhoods that would include:

1. Partnerships to waive or reduce entrance fees and transportation costs to Toronto's museums, galleries, outdoor attractions, live theatre and sporting events.
2. Whether coordinated bus transportation between recreation centres and other points of departure and destinations of interest and discovery can be provided by the TTC, Go Transit or another carrier.
3. Requiring participants to provide written feedback after each trip on what they saw, how they feel about it and whether the trip had an impact.
4. Ways to pilot the Explore program through Area Recreation Care initiatives and other recreation delivery systems.

Sincerely,

James Pasternak
Councillor, Ward 10