Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from 40 and 88 Scott Street and 10 Wellington Street East to Economic Development and Culture to fund the public artwork within Berczy Park - by Councillor Pam McConnell, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford

* Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.

Recommendations
Councillor Pam McConnell, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford, recommends that:

1. City Council amend the 2015 Approved Capital Budget for Economic Development and Culture by adding a new public art project titled "Jacob's Ladder" by the artist Luis Jacob, with a total project cost of $201,244.82; and cash flow of $120,000.00 in 2015 and $81,244.82 in 2016; fully funded by Section 37 community benefits from the developments at 88 Scott Street, 40 Scott Street, and 10 Wellington Street East (account number XR3026-3700584) for the purpose of funding the creation and installation of the public art work within Berczy Park.

Summary
Section 37 funds associated with the development at 40 and 88 Scott Street and 10 Wellington Street East and allocated for public art in the amount of $200,000 plus accrued interest, for a total of $201,244.81, has been secured and received by the City. This money is to be allocated for public art to be located within Berczy Park.

This Motion seeks the authorization to release the Section 37 monies to the Economic Development and Culture Division, to finance the creation and fabrication of the public artwork specially designed for the children's Activity Green area of the revitalized Berczy Park.

The City of Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division is completing a full revitalization of Berczy Park, located in the heart of the St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood (Ward 28, Toronto Centre-Rosedale). Renowned Montreal-based landscape architectural firm, Claude Cormier + Associés, is charged with its re-design.

Within the overall park's design, a public art opportunity has been identified to be completed and installed by the summer of 2016. Arts and Culture Services, Economic Development and
Culture Division conducted an open, national public art competition for the commission. An independent Selection Panel unanimously selected internationally recognized Toronto artist Luis Jacob as the winner and awarded the commission for his design concept, Jacob's Ladder.

The Activity Green, the chosen site for the public art, is an area in the park specifically focused towards children's spontaneous play over four seasons. This is self-directed "play," not dependent on programming and one that sustains engagement for 30 to 60 minutes and over repeat visits. The area will also function as an appealing multi-generational space.

This artist will work closely with the staff of Arts and Culture Services and Parks, Forestry and Recreation during the fabrication phase to ensure that the public art component is successfully integrated into the landscape.

This Motion is urgent as payment of the artist must begin by the end of October to align the fabrication of the artwork and its installation with the completion of Berczy Park reconstruction in Summer 2016.

Background Information (City Council)
Member Motion MM9.37