

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM11.2	ACTION			Ward:All
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A Toronto Horticultural Exposition for Canada's Sesquicentennial - by Councillor Mary Fragedakis, seconded by Councillor Michelle Berardinetti

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

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

Recommendations

Councillor Mary Fragedakis, seconded by Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to report to Council through the Economic Development Committee regarding the feasibility of hosting a horticultural exposition for Canada's sesquicentennial.

Summary

Over the next 10 years, Canada will see unprecedented growth in garden tourism. According to the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, over 13 million North Americans visit spectacular gardens in Canada while on an overnight trip and half of travelling North Americans attend horticulture-related events and attractions while on vacation.

Internationally, horticultural expositions like Germany's Bundesgartenschau and the International Association of Horticultural Producers' forthcoming expositions in Turkey, China and the Netherlands attract millions of visitors, bring investment to the local economy and create an impetus for much-needed infrastructure investments in host communities.

Following the success of the horticultural initiatives in the Host City Showcase Program during the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games and the spectacular annual efforts of our horticulturalists in our parks and conservatories, Toronto should investigate the economic and tourism opportunities that a horticultural exposition may present for our City. With Canada's sesquicentennial on the horizon, a horticultural exposition could serve as a fabulous way to celebrate our City, our country and horticultural excellence.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM11.2

