



City Council

Notice of Motion

MM17.7	ACTION			Ward:All
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Support for Bill 158, Saving the Girl Next Door Act - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council support Bill 158, Saving the Girl Next Door Act, 2016, an Act to enact the Human Trafficking Awareness Day Act, 2016 and the Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking Act, 2016 and to amend Christopher’s Law (Sex Offender Registry).
2. City Council support the Report of the Select Committee on Sexual Violence and Harassment dated December 10, 2015.
3. City Council direct the City Manager to write to Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament and appropriate officials within the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, advising of City Councils' support of Bill 158 and the Select Committee report.

Summary

On February 17, 2016 the Legislative Assembly of Ontario unanimously supported Private Member's Bill 158 put forward by Laurie Scott, MPP (Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Brock) and PC Critic for Women’s Issues entitled "Saving the Girl Next Door". Its' aim is to take immediate steps against human trafficking in Ontario.

Bill 158 passed Second Reading on February 11, 2016. The bill provides as follows:

- a. Declare February 22nd as Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Ontario;
- b. Allow for an application to be brought by a parent of a trafficking victim under the

age of 18, a trafficking victim aged 18 or over or an authorized agent such as Covenant House to obtain a protection order from a judge to prohibit the trafficker from contacting or approaching the victim. Such an order would remain in place for a minimum of 3 years;

c. Create the tort or civil action of human trafficking allowing victims to sue their traffickers for damages and an accounting of profits; and

d. Amend the definition of “sex offender” under Christopher’s Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000 to include criminal offences for trafficking of victims under the age of 18 years of age.

At the request of MPP Scott, in December 2014, the all-party Select Committee on Sexual Violence and Harassment was created.

On December 10, 2015, the Select Committee presented its final report. Pages 27 and 28 of the report make the following two specific recommendations (Nos. 57 and 58) calling for the government to create a taskforce on human trafficking:

57. The Ontario government provide resources for the development of a coordinated approach to help victims of human trafficking, allowing providers of support services and the criminal justice system to share information and work collaboratively.

58. The Ontario government develop a multi-ministerial, province-wide strategy on human trafficking.

In May 2015, MPP Scott debated and received unanimous support for a motion asking the Government of Ontario to "immediately create a provincial task force to combat human trafficking in Ontario, with such task force having a structure, complement and funding model similar to the existing Guns and Gangs Provincial Task Force."

The taskforce will have a similar structure and funding model to the Guns and Gangs Taskforce. A multi-jurisdictional taskforce made up of specially-trained police officers, Crown prosecutors, judges, and frontline social workers to coordinate information sharing, and collaboratively work to apprehend criminals and rescue victims. Training and education will have to be specialized not only for law enforcement and the justice system, but for victims’ services, health care workers, schools and businesses.

M.P.P. Laurie Scott's Private Members Bill

http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&Intranet=&BillID=3673

Select Committee final report

http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&Intranet=&BillID=3673

M.P.P. Laurie Scott’s motion of May 14, 2015

http://hansardindex.ontla.on.ca/hansardespeaker/41-1/1085-10_1.html

