

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM20.6	ACTION			Ward:All
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Gender Diversity on City Boards of Directors - by Councillor Michelle Holland, seconded by Councillor Mary Fragedakis

** 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 Michelle Holland, seconded by Councillor Mary Fragedakis, recommends that:

1. City Council direct that all public appointments to boards within the City's jurisdiction, including City owned boards and corporations, be composed of at least 50 percent women by 2019 and that as new appointments are made starting fall 2016, City Council's Nominating Panels shall take all necessary and required steps to ensure compliance with this objective by 2019.

Summary

One of the most significant challenges with respect to gender diversity within the public and private sectors concerns the composition of boards of directors of public and private corporations. Across Canada women held only 15.9 percent of board positions on the largest corporate entities in the country. Companies that are public had only 12.1 percent of women on their boards of directors and crown corporations had only 30 percent representation. Many public companies (41.7 percent) had no women at all on their boards. At the federal level, the Prime Minister has moved to have at least 50 percent representation within the federal cabinet, the Ontario Government has set a similar target and recently the Provincial Government confirmed that they would seek to have 40 percent of their boards comprised of women by 2019. Gender diversity on boards of directors is critical to ensure proper representation, equal opportunity and effective corporate management of public corporations that the City owns or controls.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM20.6