TORONTO   **Member Motion**

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM23.6	ACTION			Ward:All

Pattie Walker's Glass Walls - by Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

Recommendations

Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council direct that the room containing Pattie Walker's public art work located on the 7th floor of Metro Hall be available for permit to arts organizations identified by the Toronto Arts Council and the City's Culture Division (in consultation with Craft Ontario) and that the space be permitted between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and between noon and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

2. City Council direct the appropiate City staff to make this opportunity known to recognized arts groups through the City's culture division and the Toronto Arts Council.

Summary

As part of the construction of Metro Hall, the Metro Government held a public art competition to create a special meeting room on the 7th floor of the building. The competition for the interior glass walls of the room was won by a Toronto artist, Pattie Walker, with uniquely designed double glass walls. The coloured applique parts of the walls were based on colour-coded ward maps of the cities and boroughs that made up Metro Toronto. The sand-blasted part of the walls was based on a relief map of the Don and Humber River Systems. Pattie Walker died in 2012. Several years before that, Pattie had discussed the possibility of moving the stained glass walls to City Hall with the Mayor at the time. Following Pattie's death, her husband, Paul Copeland, has continued efforts to try to get the art work moved to an appropriate location where it can be viewed by the public.

Two years ago, Councillor John Filion became involved in the efforts to move the walls and begun discussions with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture and the Chief Corporate Officer. It was determined that it was neither practical nor advisable to move the art work, which had been designed for placement within a specific context and could not be properly shown elsewhere. In addition, there would also be significant cost to any relocation. At this point, it was agreed by the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, the

Chief Corporate Officer and Councillor Filion, in consultation with Paul Copeland and other members of Pattie's family, that the best solution would have the room and its art work be more accessible to the public.

However, in August 2016, Councillor Filion received an e-mail from the Director of Citywide Strategic Initiatives, Chief Corporate Office, stating that the room would be offered to community arts organizations only twice per month – one weekday evening and one weekend day. It was further proposed that a security guard be posted on the 7th floor of Metro Hall while the room was being used by the public. It was also proposed that the cost of the security guard be funded by Facilities Management for a period of one year only.

The limitations of the use of the space proposed by City staff neither meets the objectives of having the room visible to the public on a reasonable basis, nor is it appropriate or financially practical to have a security guard present at all times it is being used. It is therefore proposed that the space be offered for use by recognized arts groups, without security guards, for a trial period of one year, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between noon and 5:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Lists of organizations who might be interested in using the space would be available through the Toronto Arts Council, the City's Culture division and Craft Ontario, which has set up a Memorial Award in Pattie's name.

Background Information (City Council)
Member Motion MM23.6