

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM24.33	ACTION			Ward:All
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Recognizing the Sacrifices of Canada's Armed Forces in Afghanistan - by Councillor Michael Thompson, Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Michael Thompson, Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the acceptance of the donation of the LAV III Monument from the donor subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Public space is found that is appropriate for the monument and that space will be chosen at the sole discretion of the City, by agreement of affected City Divisions, although the donor may have input into site selection;
 - b. A full budget and confirmation of at least 30% of the costs associated with the donation is confirmed in writing;
 - c. That there is a public consultation held in the vicinity of the proposed site;
 - d. All costs associated with accepting the monument and installing it in public space is borne by the donor. These expenses may include, but are not limited to, the cost of the monument itself, transportation costs of the LAV replica to Toronto, and installation, design and fabrication of foundations, engineering services, site design, signage and plaques, landscaping, costs associated with the public consultation and the public unveiling.
 - e. An amount equal to 10% of the value of the monument must be contributed for its ongoing maintenance; and
 - f. Once a site is selected and approved by the City, the monument will be installed within 24 months.

Summary

The City has received an offer of a donation of an LAV III monument, facilitated by Canada

Company to encourage the recognition of the contributions and sacrifices of Canadian soldiers during the 2001– 2014 Afghanistan conflict. The veterans who served Canada in Afghanistan over the 13 year war participated in the longest combat mission in Canadian military history. With more than 2,000 wounded and nearly 160 killed, Canada’s sacrifice during the conflict was significant, and worthy of commemoration. There is currently no monument specifically dedicated to veterans of the Afghanistan conflict although several units from Toronto served in that conflict and veterans reside here.

Canada Company advocates for members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the LAV III Monument Program to recognize the service and sacrifice of the Canadian Armed Forces in Afghanistan. It provides full-sized replicas of decommissioned Light Armored Vehicles (LAV III) to communities throughout Canada. Ten communities across Canada have accepted this monument from Canada Company through the involvement and support of dedicated community groups. Part of the power of this project is that the acceptance of each monument has been driven by people who care deeply about bringing it to their community. Community involvement in Toronto has not fully coalesced around this project but may do so once the donation is accepted in principle.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM24.33