

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM27.21	ACTION			Ward:All
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Federal Tax Reform to Support People with Severe Mental and Physical Disabilities - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

** 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 Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Government of Canada to implement a refundable version of the tax credit for people living with severe mental or physical disabilities.
2. City Council request the Government of Canada to also implement the new refundable version of this tax credit, the option for people with very low taxes to receive a cash grant in place of a credit.

Summary

The City of Toronto does much to support residents with mental and physical disabilities. Our municipal government need to be a partner to provide greater financial sustainability, to assist the financial ability of municipalities across Canada as well as providing them with the dignity they deserve.

Currently the Government of Canada provides an annual tax credit of up to \$2,000.00 for people living with a severe mental or physical disability. Often those who qualify for this tax credit hold low-income jobs, or receive subsidies leaving them paying very little income tax. This formula often does not provide the proper financial supports for those who need them the most.

The Government of Canada been informed repeatedly by disability advocates that there needs to be a refundable version of the credit, either providing a break on income taxes, or a cash grant at the end of the year, for those whose taxes are so low they don't qualify for the credit. The Caledon Institute, which designed a model for a new Canada Child Benefit, published a report in 2015 providing such a framework for the federal government

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM27.21