

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM31.47	ACTION			Ward:All
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Appointment of a Toronto Youth Equity Champion for the balance of the term - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Mayor John Tory

** 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 James Pasternak, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council appoint Councillor Neethan Shan as the Youth Equity Champion for the balance of the term ending on November 30, 2018, to replace Councillor Joe Cressy.

Summary

One of the transformative recommendations of the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy report states that "The City of Toronto will coordinate policy and program planning between its youth serving areas." A sub recommendation is for Toronto City Council to appoint a City Councillor as a Youth Equity Champion. The report states that "The Youth Equity Champion will support and promote the work of the Strategy with fellow councillors, other orders of government, and residents across Toronto."

The Toronto Youth Equity Strategy recognizes that not all of Toronto's youth live in the same context of opportunity and support and when solutions are designed to meet the complex needs of the most high risk youth, all youth benefit.

The Toronto Youth Equity Strategy targets young people (aged 13 to 29) who are most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence and crime by taking steps to better coordinate youth service delivery in Toronto, and by identifying specific service enhancements to achieve equity in outcomes for these youth.

For the last 2 years, Councillor Joe Cressy has served at the Toronto Youth Equity Advocate. His work to advocate for increased investment in pre-charge diversion, and countless other programs, has been critical in moving the work of the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy forward.

In the interest of continued renewal, we are recommending that Councillor Neethan Shan be appointed the Toronto Youth Equity Advocate for the remainder of this term of Council.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM31.47