

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM35.1	ACTION			Ward:All
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Request to Reinstate Rogers Community Television Channel - by Councillor Anthony Perruzza, seconded by Councillor Neethan Shan

** City Council on November 7, 8 and 9, 2017 waived referral of this Motion. City Council subsequently deferred this Motion to the December 5, 6 and 7, 2017 meeting.*

** This Motion is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Anthony Perruzza, seconded by Councillor Neethan Shan, recommends that:

1. City Council request Rogers Communications to reverse its decision to discontinue its community channel.
2. City Council request the City Manager to report back to City Council at its December 6, 7 and 8, 2017 meeting on:
 - a. what changes in CRTC policy allowed for this to happen and why;
 - b. options (financial, legal and otherwise) to have the live televised broadcast of City of Toronto Council meetings restored; and
 - c. the possibility of working with TVO, CPAC and other broadcasters as an alternative way of restoring this important community function.
3. City Council request the CRTC to require cable service providers to provide a televised community broadcast channel.
4. City Council forward its decision to the CRTC, all federal party leaders and all Toronto MPs.

Summary

Roger's TV, owned by Rogers Communications, whose slogan is "local matters" has discontinued its community channel. In doing so it has ended a long standing commitment to community service programming and its broadcast of Toronto City Council meetings. The loss of this television medium results in diminished public transparency and civic engagement.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM35.1