
City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 34

MM34.35	ACTION	Adopted		Ward:All
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Re-affirming City of Toronto as a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone - by Councillor Chin Lee, seconded by Mayor John Tory

City Council Decision

City Council on November 7, 8 and 9, 2017, adopted the following:

1. City Council reaffirm the City of Toronto's position as a nuclear weapons-free zone.
2. City Council request the Board of Health to hold public hearings on the dangers of nuclear weapons and radiation fallout.

Summary

In August 1945, during World War II, atomic bombs were deployed over the City of Hiroshima and the City of Nagasaki with the immediate effect of killing 80,000 people upon impact and prolonged suffering from radiation exposure.

City Council officially designated Toronto a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone on January 24, 1983 and adopted the Inter-City Solidarity Program proposed by the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to become a member of Mayors for Peace. In the same year, City Council approved the building of the Peace Garden on Nathan Phillips Square as a symbol for peace and love for mankind and our continued struggle to avoid the devastation of war.

Mayor John Tory proclaimed August 6, 2017 as "Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day" in the City of Toronto to remember those who passed away from the immediate effects of the attacks and all those who suffered thereafter.

The City of Toronto can play a key role in raising awareness of the devastating impact of nuclear weapons and promote the solidarity of cities toward abolition and prohibition of nuclear weapons.

The Hiroshima Nagasaki Day Coalition whom the recent Nobel Peace Prize winner, Hiroshima Survivor Setsuko Thurlow is an active member, kindly requests that the City of Toronto re-affirm its position of abolishing nuclear weapons and declare Toronto as a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM34.35

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2017/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-108821.pdf>