

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM41.49	ACTION			Ward:All
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Acceptance of Funds from Toronto Foundation - by Mayor John Tory, seconded by Councillor John Filion

** 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

Mayor John Tory, seconded by Councillor John Filion, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Treasurer to receive funds of approximately \$400,000 from the #TorontoStrong Fund (Toronto Foundation) and to distribute it equally to the families of those killed and injured, minus any amounts already reimbursed on their behalf by Victim Services, to help with expenses resulting from the immediate aftermath of the tragedy.
2. City Council authorize the Treasurer to negotiate and enter into all necessary agreements or other documents to support the receipt and payment of the funds, in forms satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

On Monday, April 23, 2018, an attack on Yonge St. killed 10 people and seriously injured 16. In the days after the attack, The Toronto Foundation in partnership with the City of Toronto, established the #TorontoStrong Fund, to ensure the generous outpouring of philanthropic support could be donated to those who needed it most in an impactful, transparent and accountable manner.

To date, approximately \$3.2 million has been raised through this effort. Within 10 days of the attack, \$500,000 was made available to Victim Services Toronto to be distributed equally to the families of those killed and injured in the attack to meet their immediate crisis financial needs, including funeral costs, travel and accommodation.

As a charitable organization, Victim Services can only reimburse costs to the families and cannot make donations directly to individuals.

After initial reimbursements, \$400,000 is still available through this first donation from the #TorontoStrong Fund. To ensure it can be distributed quickly and directly to the families, Victim Services will return the remaining funds to the Toronto Foundation, which will pay

them to the City of Toronto, which is able to provide lump-sum disbursements directly to individuals.

Many of those affected by this incident have considerable immediate financial needs. This equal and direct distribution will provide some assistance.

A Steering Committee has been appointed to designate the remaining total donated funds to the impacted families, informed by best practices in other jurisdictions around the world.

This Motion is urgent as there is a need to expediently distribute these funds to the families directly impacted by the April 23rd attack.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM41.49