

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM43.30	ACTION			Ward:All
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Coroner's Jury Inquest Recommendations for the Homeless - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Joe Mihevc

- * Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
- * This Motion is subject to referral to the Community Development and Recreation Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- * This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Joe Mihevc, recommends that:

1. City Council adopt and implement the Coroner's Jury recommendations, established on June 11, 2018, on the Inquest into the Death of Grant Faulkner.
2. City Council request the City Manager to correspond with:
 - a. the Province of Ontario requesting the Province to adopt and implement the recommendations under provincial jurisdiction; and
 - b. the community agencies providing services to the homeless in Toronto requesting that the Coroner's Jury recommendations be implemented.
3. City Council request the appropriate City Divisions to report back to City Council during the first quarter of 2019 with an update on the implementation inclusive of the developments in the sharing of data.

Summary

As the recommendations adopted by the Coroner's Jury at the Inquest are not legally binding, City Council adoption and support of the measures provides support to the necessity for their review and implementation.

Among the recommendations is a call to improve the collection of data around homeless deaths, "improve data collection and sharing of information on the deaths of homeless individuals with the municipality where the death occurred, whether through public health departments or (as) appropriate", a request for an increase in social assistance payments to reflect the real cost homeless people are facing for shelter and for their basic needs, and that the Province continue to participate in the National Housing Strategy for the accessibility of

affordable housing.

Grant Faulkner, who was 49 years of age and a father of three, passed away in January 2015 in a plywood shelter that caught fire during a sub-zero temperatures. The official cause of death was smoke inhalation.

The recommendations further address the need for the City of Toronto to equip our outreach workers with "survival supplies", fire retardant blankets, safe heat sources and sleeping bags. As well as the development of safety tips targeted toward homeless people with the Fire Marshal's Office.

This Motion is urgent to ensure that the City has the opportunity to review the recommendations before the end of current the term.

https://news.ontario.ca/mcscs/en/2018/04/inquest-date-into-the-death-of-grant-faulkner-announced.html?_ga=2.204629010.38478564.1529677563-1265193076.1516135368

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2018/06/20/inquest-jury-probing-death-of-homeless-man-calls-for-rooming-houses-better-data-and-fire-safety.html>

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM43.30