Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

The Butterfly Approach: Making Toronto's Long Term Care Homes more Caring, Respectful and Supportive - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

* 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.

Communication MM44.53.1 has been submitted on this Item.

Recommendations
Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Long-Term Care Homes and Services:

   a. within existing resources, to provide better supports for seniors living with dementia in the City's 10 Long-Term Care Home and Service units by implementing key measures inspired by care-based programs such as the Butterfly and Greenhouse Project models;

   b. to report to the first meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee in 2019 on the potential for a full pilot project inspired by care-based programs, such as the Butterfly and Greenhouse Project models, to better support seniors living with dementia, in one of the City's 10 Long-Term Care Homes and Services units, including:

      1. outcomes of residents in other jurisdictions living in Long-Term Care Homes employing an innovative care model;
      2. financial impacts and potential for savings in the short, medium, and long-term; and
      3. supports and resources Long-Term Care Homes and Services would require to further embed a new approach across the City's 10 Long-Term Care Homes; and

   c. together with the Seniors Advocate, tour the municipally-owned and operated Redstone House at Malton Village Long-Term Care Centre in Peel Region where the Butterfly approach to dementia care was recently implemented.

Summary
The Butterfly, Greenhouse Project, and other innovative approaches are transformative,
emotion-centred service models for residents with dementia in long-term care facilities that provides gentle, holistic, individualized care. These approaches helps staff and leadership to focus on the emotional wellbeing of residents with dementia, and all seniors, in their care.

For example, the recent implementation of the Butterfly service approach in a municipally-operated Long-Term Care Home in Peel Region was the subject of a recent series of articles in the Toronto Star, reportedly showing positive outcomes for residents, improved job satisfaction for staff and annual savings of over $50,000 as a conservative estimate. Evidence collected from the application of this approach in British Columbia demonstrates improved health and safety outcomes for seniors, including a 43 percent reduction in falls, 58 percent reduction in violent incidences, and 100 percent reduction in the use of pain medication.

This Motion is urgent as there are no further meetings of Standing Committees and Council until after the October 22, 2018 municipal election. The next regular business meeting of Council will not be held until January 2019. To avoid a delay of at least six months, this Motion is being introduced today to ensure that elements of these care-based approaches can be piloted immediately, in consultation with the Toronto Seniors Strategy Accountability Table and other stakeholders, for the health, safety and wellbeing of the residents of the City's Long-Term Care Homes.

Background Information (City Council)
Revised Member Motion MM44.53
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-119236.pdf)

Communications (City Council)
(July 23, 2018) Letter from Linda L. McCarthy (MM.New.MM44.53.1)