
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM9.20	ACTION			Ward: All
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Making home renovations safer - requesting changes to the Ontario Building Code based on the inquest into the death of Ryan Pearce - by Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to implement changes to the Ontario Building Code that will require all underpinning and bench footing work to be undertaken under the general review of a supervised person, and City Council advise the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the City of Toronto is prepared to assist with evaluating the regulatory changes needed to accomplish Recommendation 1 from the Office of the Chief Coroner's Inquest into the death of Ryan Pearce.

Summary

On September 9, 2014, 19 year-old Ryan Pearce died due to an accident while working on home renovations in north Toronto. The project included lowering the basement floor slab and did not require the general review or supervision of a qualified person.

In the resulting inquest by the Office of the Chief Coroner, completed May 30, 2018, the first Recommendation was to consider changing the Ontario Building Code to require all underpinning and bench footing work to be undertaken under the general review and supervision of a qualified person.

Recommendation 2 was that the City of Toronto inform the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing of their support for Recommendation 1 and its preparedness to support and assist with the regulatory changes.

The Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building wrote to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on February 8, 2019 with his unequivocal support of both Recommendations and requested that the Province move expeditiously on implementing the changes.

This Motion would affirm City Council's support for these important regulatory changes.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM9.20