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## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM13.17	ACTION			Ward: All
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### **Declaring January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in the City of Toronto - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

#### **Recommendations**

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak, recommends that:

1. City Council formally declare January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in the City of Toronto.

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this Motion is to declare January 27th, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Toronto. On November 1, 2005 the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 60/7 to designate January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day which marks the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and is meant to honour the victims of the Holocaust.

International Holocaust Remembrance day is officially observed by the United Nations, countries including Canada, Italy and Germany, as well as many cities such as Calgary, Ottawa and Montreal.

Toronto is home to the largest Jewish community in Canada, and home to a significant number of Holocaust Survivors and their families.

By proclaiming January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, it will be an opportunity to create greater public understanding and awareness of this horrific period in history where over 6,000,000 innocent Jewish men, women and children were systematically murdered by the Nazi regime and its collaborators from 1933 to 1945.

Holocaust denial and other forms of antisemitic hatred have flourished in the digital age. Antisemitism is on the rise and an increasing threat not only in Canada, but all over the world. It is therefore critical that at this time, through this proclamation, we recognize the universal importance of the lessons learned from the Holocaust and encourage the citizens of Toronto,

through their schools, institutions and libraries, to learn about the history of the Holocaust to raise awareness about this horrific genocide and ensure that nothing like it will ever be repeated.

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM13.17