

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM24.5	ACTION			Ward: All
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Exploring Indigenous Economic Opportunities in Toronto's Ravines - by Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Director, Indigenous Affairs Office and the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in collaboration with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture and various Indigenous organizations and communities, to explore the feasibility of developing economic opportunities for Indigenous businesses that contribute to the goals of Toronto's Ravine Strategy and Indigenous place-making in Toronto's parklands for report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee by the second quarter of 2021.

Summary

Toronto's Ravine Strategy guides the management of the ravines and ensures the protection of these irreplaceable lands is balanced with their use and enjoyment, so that they continue to bring nature to people and healthy ecology and biodiversity to Canada's largest urban centre.

There is community and City staff interest in exploring business opportunities for Toronto's Indigenous communities within and throughout the city's vast and diverse ravine system. This could be various initiatives that restore the unique ecosystem through landscape design, seed gathering, plant propagation, plant instillation or ecosystem monitoring.

This work must be considered working directly with Indigenous communities and organizations (ex. Toronto Indigenous Business Association, City of Toronto's interim Indigenous Place-Making Circle, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, etc.).

This innovative and creative partnership could bring the goals and actions of the Ravine Strategy to life, while providing pilot project ideas for the diverse Indigenous business organizations and communities within Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM24.5

