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## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM32.18	ACTION			Ward: All
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### **Showing Our Seniors That We Care - By Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll**

*\* 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 Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council endorse the requests of the Toronto Seniors' Forum 'Show Us That You Care' Campaign.
2. City Council request the City Manager to advise the appropriate Federal and Provincial Ministries, and all Toronto MPs and MPPs, about the Toronto Seniors' Forum 'Show Us That You Care' Campaign requests and that the Campaign has the support of Toronto City Council.

#### **Summary**

The Toronto Seniors' Forum is a City-sponsored and supported group of seniors (60 and over) who are Toronto residents. It was established in 2004 "to facilitate civic engagement of seniors in Toronto" and "to ensure that Toronto meets its commitment to providing equitable services to all seniors living in or visiting Toronto." Members meet to examine, discuss and advise on seniors issues. It provides an opportunity for senior residents to have input into the City of Toronto's operations and policies.

Currently, The Toronto Seniors' Forum is running a Show Us That You Care Campaign with the following requests:

1. To the Provincial Government

It is estimated that \$2 billion annually will support the program infrastructure to enable Ontario seniors to age in their homes or in their community in dignity and respect. We demand that the Ontario Government:

- Plan and put in place comprehensive Ageing in Place programming for older adults
- Immediately implement comprehensive needs-based home care for older adults
- Support integrated and wrap-around seniors' services in the community, building on existing public infrastructure

- Reverse immediately the Public Health cuts of 2018, with cost of living adjustments

## 2. To the Federal Government

High-quality Long Term Care is social infrastructure and deserves federal funding as much as bridges, highways, public buildings and pipelines. We have good estimates that, appropriately adjusted for inflation, \$2 billion a year for Ontario and around \$8 billion for the rest of the country, will make available comprehensive home care for seniors as recommended in 2002 by the Romanow Commission. Applying these funds will provide high standards of safety and care, guaranteeing:

- older adults' safety
- older adults' dignity
- older adults' respectful treatment

For the effective management of this government expenditure, older adults must be consulted. The funds must be spent with:

- careful planning
- accountability

Older adults deserve health care providers who make available highly qualified staff to care for them. The highly qualified staff provide critical care to older adults and therefore must be guaranteed:

- full time employment
- equitable and adequate pay
- equitable and adequate benefits
- good and safe working conditions

## 3. To the Provincial and Federal Governments

Decades of research and policy on the social determinants of health indicate the need to reduce the income inequities in Canadian society. The allied health care workers who serve older adults are grossly underpaid. These workers are predominantly female and racialized – Black, Indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC).

- We demand that the Ontario and Federal Governments legislate the implementation of employment and wage equity for BIPOC allied healthcare workers.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM32.18