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**City Council****Notice of Motion**

MM36.5	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Protecting Healthcare Workers - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll**

*\* 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 Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager and the Toronto Police Services Board to work with Chief of Police James Ramer and the Toronto Police Service to develop a rapid response protocol for addressing harassment and intimidation of frontline healthcare workers, small business owners, and frontline retail employees by anti-vaxxer protestors.
2. City Council request the City Manager, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to explore the feasibility of temporary "safe zones" of 100 metres around hospitals, healthcare facilities, COVID-19 testing centres, and vaccine clinics to prevent anti-vaxxer protestors from delaying the regular and critical functioning of these facilities.
3. Due to the urgent nature of these matters, City Council request the City Manager and the City Solicitor, in consultation with the Toronto Police Services Board, to report back to City Council on the progress of Recommendations 1 and 2 above at the next meeting of City Council on November 9 and 10, 2021.

**Summary**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, frontline workers have been the backbone of Toronto's pandemic response. Hardworking nurses, doctors, and healthcare workers continue to provide life-saving medical services and have delivered millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccinations in record time.

As well, small businesses, and the employees that keep them operating, have risked their own health to keep people fed and maintain access to essential goods and services throughout the pandemic.

These hardworking individuals are now facing systemic obstruction by anti-vaxxer protestors.

While Toronto City Council recognizes the fundamental right of all citizens to protest peacefully, all forms of harassment, intimidation, and violence against citizens and businesses are never acceptable and appropriate action should be taken in response.

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM36.5