

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM12.16	ACTION			Ward: 14
---------	--------	--	--	----------

**Improving Lockdown Notifications for Childcare Centres -
Implementing a Ward 14 Pilot - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded
by Councillor Alejandra Bravo**

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services, in collaboration with the General Manager, Children’s Services to convene a local working group in Toronto Danforth composed of local licenced childcare providers, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care, Toronto Police Service 55 Division and representatives of the Toronto District School Board and Toronto Catholic District School Boards to:

- a. explore consistent methods that would allow Toronto Police Service to directly notify licensed childcare centres which are not located in schools of public safety threats in their vicinity and when that threat is no longer a danger; that would ensure childcare operators in schools have a procedure for notification outside of school hours, during the summer, or on professional development days; and
- b. determine the best way to evaluate and implement these protocols on a trial basis in Ward 14 in cooperation with 55 Division of Toronto Police Service and evaluate the potential for implementing these new protocols across the City.

Summary

Recent safety incidents in our community have highlighted some gaps in communications about lockdowns or hold and secures are handled at local school based and community based childcare centres.

Multiple childcare centres have reached out to say that they didn’t know about the incident or were unable to determine when it was over and were finding it difficult to get the information they needed for their duty of care.

A recent meeting that I co-hosted with the Toronto District School Board Trustee Sara Ehrhardt, Toronto Children’s Services, local Childcare Operators and Toronto Police reviewed questions and concerns from childcare operators that there is not yet an easy to achieve manner that lets all childcare centres – about safety incidents in the community.

Good suggestions were made at the meeting and bringing together the relevant stakeholders to review current procedures and the development of improvements would allow the on the ground experience of local childcare operators to potentially inform a new city wide standard.

Reason for Urgency: Childcare Operators are anxious about the lockdown and hold and secure procedures, and the meeting between them and Toronto Public Service happened after the Notice of Motion Deadline had passed so to allow this work to commence without losing momentum it needs to be approved at this meeting.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM12.16