

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM12.28	ACTION			Ward: All
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Hate Speech and Other Hate Activities - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Dianne Saxe

** 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 James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Dianne Saxe, recommends that:

1. City Council express its concern related to the substantial upsurge of hate speech on city property and other public places in Toronto and request the Toronto Police Services Board to request the Toronto Police Service and the Attorney General to consult about what steps can be taken quickly to protect the public from such hate speech, including anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia or any other forms of hatred contrary to the Criminal Code and to consider all legal tools available to assist in taking action against these groups.

Summary

There has been a substantial upsurge of hate speech on city property and other public places in Toronto. The Toronto Police Service has focussed on de-escalating risks of physical violence, but has not taken effective steps to protect the public from such hate speech.

Reason for urgency: Rapidly changing world events has resulted in an increasingly volatile situation on Toronto streets and public spaces in which protests are creating deep concern about public safety and social cohesion.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM12.28