

## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM16.20	ACTION			Ward: All
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### **Supporting the Government of Canada's Proposed Online Harms Act - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie**

*\* 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 James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, recommends that:

1. City Council express its support in principle to the Government of Canada for Bill C-63, the Online Harms Act.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to review the proposed Bill C-63 and report back to Executive Committee; such report to include opportunities to align City of Toronto Hate Activity policies and initiatives with online hate prevention principles in proposed Bill C-63.

#### **Summary**

On February 26, 2024, the House of Commons introduced new legislation under [Bill C-63](#) called the Online Harms Act. The primary framework of this act is to “promote the online safety of persons in Canada, reduce harms caused to persons in Canada as a result of harmful content online and ensure that the operators of social media services”.

If this Bill passes, several online communications and criminal code procedures will potentially need to be revised by all levels of government. Several of the proposed recommendations in the Online Harms Act are aligned with The City of Toronto Hate Activity policy which was recently updated in October 2023.

This motion represents another important step updating the City of Toronto anti-hate strategy.

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

Member Motion MM16.20

Attachment 1 - Bill C-63

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-244131.pdf>)