



NOTICE OF MOTION

Protecting Playgrounds and Parks: Ensuring Safety for Children and Families

Moved by: Councillor

Bradford

Seconded by: Councillor

Burnside

SUMMARY

Toronto's parks are among the city's most important public spaces. They are places where families gather, kids play, and neighbours connect. When encampments take over playgrounds, set up next to daycares, and impact other community spaces, they become unsafe for the people they're meant to serve.

The City of Toronto needs to ensure safe access to all parks, especially those near schools, daycares and playgrounds. That is why this motion calls for removing encampments in these locations within 48 hours of being reported.

In Ward 19, an encampment was established at Stanley G. Grizzle Park, immediately adjacent to a daycare and on a route used by families and residents of all ages. Residents have endured unacceptable impacts from this encampment, including observing the use of crack pipes, littered needles, increased garbage, screaming at three o'clock in the morning, human waste left in residents' backyards, the illicit sale of drugs to minors, porch package theft, and assaults. Despite escalating this situation repeatedly to City officials, the encampment and its negative impacts have remained.

Encampments are not a healthy or sustainable solution for the people living in them, and they are not healthy for our communities. Our public parks need to be for all of us.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Bradford, seconded by Councillor Burnside recommends that:

1. City Council amend the City of Toronto Interdivisional Protocol for Encampments in Toronto, as adopted in 2024.EC13.8, to prioritize removing encampments located within 200 metres of a school, daycare or playground within 48 hours of being reported.

November 12, 2025