



## NOTICE OF MOTION

### Identifying How to Improve Access to Space for Faith Communities Across Toronto

Moved by: Councillor Shan

Seconded by: Councillor Myers

#### SUMMARY:

Toronto is home to over 3.2 million people and is often referred to as one of the most multicultural cities in the world. As Toronto continues to grow, so do the diverse communities that contribute to the culture of our city. Today, our city is composed of a wide range of religious affiliations.

As communities across the city grow, religious celebrations have become important community landmarks to gather and come together. However, despite these times intended to be opportunities of building community and celebration, faith communities have expressed experiencing challenges in their places of worship such as facing limited access to space, permit expansion, parking permits, safety, and transportation. We need to ensure that there is clarity on the City's process to secure and permit out City spaces.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council request the City Manager, in consultation with relevant City divisions, to explore opportunities to better provide service to growing faith communities in Toronto to access information on City services, programs, and supports related to:
  - a. Space booking processes for City-owned spaces
  - b. Permit processes
  - c. Parking exemptions

d. Transportation access

2. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Community Development and Social Services to review and identify opportunities to support community safety and inclusion for growing faith communities across the City of Toronto.