

MOTION ON NOTICE

B.5

5. Sexual and Gender Minority Youth in Schools

MOVER: Councillor Stevenson

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. The Egale Canada Trust reported in 2011 in *The National Climate Survey on Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia in Canadian Schools* that LGBTQ youth face greater prejudice and victimization in their schools and a correspondingly lower level of school connectedness than their non-LGBTQ peers and that the relationship between bullying and suicide is stronger for LGBT youth than for their non-LGBT peers;
2. The City of Vancouver is strongly committed to supporting the equality and human rights of the LGBTQ2+ communities and all residents, and to ending homophobia and transphobia in all forms;
3. Vancouver District Students' Council called on the government in 2012 to implement a province-wide sexual orientation and gender identity policy, instill values of equity and equality at the earliest ages and survey youth at the provincial level to locate direct solutions to direct problems;
4. The Vancouver Board of Education was the first school district in BC to adopt discrete Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity policy in 2004 and revised it in 2014 to provide explicit protections for trans* students;
5. The LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee encourages Mayor and Council to lend its support to the BC Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth's Report, *Child and Youth Mental Health in British Columbia (Concrete Actions for Systemic Change)* to the Minister of Education;
6. The LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee passed a resolution to ask City Council to pass this motion at the next Council meeting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver endorses Recommendation 21: of the BC Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth's Report "Require school districts to support sexual and gender minority youth in schools through general and targeted programs to address child and youth mental health issues."

* * * * *