

MOTION

1. Opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement

At the Regular Council meeting on November 17, 2015, Vancouver City Council referred this item to a Standing Committee meeting in December in order to hear from speakers.

MOVER: Councillor Carr

SECONDER: Councillor Stevenson

WHEREAS

1. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), signed by the former Canadian Government during the recent federal election, is a free trade agreement purportedly aimed at reducing trade barriers and expanding the flow of goods, services and capital between 12 Pacific countries that represent approximately 40 percent of the world's Gross Domestic Product;
2. Motions passed by many cities in the United States, including San Francisco and Seattle, opposed the fast-tracking and content of the TPP and some such as New York City and Berkeley established local "TPP-Free Zones";
3. The TPP's investor-state dispute settlement provision allows transnational corporations to sue governments over legislation or policies made in the public interest, giving multinational corporations excessive power to undermine the authority of our city, province and country to create reasonable rules and regulations regarding environmental, health and labour safeguards, climate policy, food safety standards and protection of local jobs and businesses;
4. Members of Parliament will have the opportunity to vote on whether or not to ratify the TPP agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council express its opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement and communicate this to Prime Minister Trudeau, Cabinet Ministers and every Member of Parliament.

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