

MOTION ON NOTICE

4. Rainbow Crosswalk

MOVER: Councillor Stevenson

SECONDER: Councillor Affleck

WHEREAS

1. As identified in Trans*, Gender Variant and Two-Spirit Inclusion at the City of Vancouver Report (2016) and by Saewyc, Poon, Kovaleva, Tourand, and Smith (2016), LGBTQ2S+ people in BC experience significantly higher rates of bullying, harassment and suicide than other populations, and the lack of visible representations of LGBTQ2S+ people in the broader community exacerbates these harms;
2. Vancouver has taken a leadership role in protecting LGBTQ2S+ people in our city. Several local governments in British Columbia are being asked to increase visible representation of the LGBTQ2S+ community by installing rainbow crosswalks and are unsure how to proceed. Standardized guidelines on implementing such projects do not yet exist in BC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee recommends that Council put forward the following motion at the Union of BC Municipalities meeting in 2018:

“RAINBOW CROSSWALKS”

WHEREAS

1. LGBTQ2S+ people in British Columbia experience significantly higher rates of bullying, harassment and suicide than other populations and a lack of visible representation of LGBTQ2S+ community exacerbates these harms;
2. A number of local governments in BC are being asked to increase visible representation of the LGBTQ2S+ community through the installation of rainbow crosswalks and would benefit from standardized guidelines on how to implement such projects.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of British Columbia be requested to inform and advise local governments on best practices to handle such requests, and to provide financial and technical support to local governments regarding visual representations of the LGBTQ2S+ community, such as rainbow crosswalks.

References

(2016) Trans*, Gender Variant and Two-Spirit Inclusion at the City of Vancouver. Retrieved from City of Vancouver website: <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/trans-gender-variant-and-two-spirit-inclusion-at-the-city-of-vancouver.pdf>

Saewyc E., Poon C., Kovaleva K., Tourand J., & Smith A. (2016). School-based interventions to reduce health disparities among LGBTQ youth: Considering the evidence. Vancouver: McCreary Centre Society & Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre.

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