

# CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

**Committee Date: March 19, 2014**

**MOVED BY .....COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....**

## **Moratorium on School Closures by Board Officials**

Whereas, municipalities have been dealing with school closures across the Province of Ontario as part of the Accommodation Review Process, and;

Whereas, the City of Hamilton has been leading the way in neighbourhood development, and;

Whereas, neighbourhoods continue to indicate schools are a key community and infrastructure assets, and;

Whereas, education has been identified as a critical component of the City's goal to build strong healthy neighbourhoods, and;

Whereas, neighbourhoods have called for new ways of being engaged in the school closure decision making process, and;

Whereas, the City has no authority on school closures;

Therefore be it resolved;

- (a) That the City of Hamilton request the Province of Ontario to issue a moratorium on school closures until the Ministry of Education can call a meeting of City and School Board officials to develop a process to better understand neighbourhood changes, future growth predictions and the impact of closures on the health of neighbourhoods, and;
- (b) That the Province of Ontario and Ministry of Education develop a new approach to the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) process that includes a broader, more participatory engagement process.