CITY OF HAMILTON
NOTICE OF MOTION

Council: May 9, 2018

MOVED BY MAYOR EISENBERGER………...……….……...……….………….

Co-Sponsorship of FCM's Resolution Respecting Canadian Municipalities Supporting Local Economies in International Trade

WHEREAS, Hamilton City Council at their meeting of January 25, 2017 expressed their opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, in its present form, to Prime Minister Trudeau, Federal Cabinet Ministers and the area MPs and requested the consideration and support of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) has since been revised and signed by the government of Canada, FCM continues to work with the federal government to support the interests of municipalities across Canada affected by trade disputes and during ongoing trade agreement negotiations; and

WHEREAS, FCM is focused on protecting the best interests of municipalities and local economies in trade agreements.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City of Hamilton co-sponsor the attached resolution (Appendix 'A') with the City of Windsor at the 2018 Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Attachment – Appendix 'A'

Canadian Municipalities Supporting Local Economies in International Trade

WHEREAS, Canadian municipalities play a role in international trade and economic development by building relationships globally to attract investment and promote their industries abroad, as well as by supporting local businesses, to build their communities and local economies;

WHEREAS, the federal government has signaled an agenda for diversifying and strengthening international trade relationships and has undertaken several trade agreement negotiations with global partners in the past year, as well as responded to trade disputes;

WHEREAS, there are a number of free trade negotiations ongoing, announced or in exploration, including: the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Mercosur (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), the Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru), China, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and implementing legislation is expected for the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP);

WHEREAS, NAFTA governs nearly every aspect of Canada and the U.S economic relationship and even minor changes to the established trade relationship could have far-reaching consequences for communities on both sides of the border;

WHEREAS, recent trade disputes with the U.S on softwood lumber and potential tariffs on other commodities has caused business uncertainty and impacted local economies;

WHEREAS, Canada's economic future and the continued well-being of communities and their local economies depend on free and fair trading relationships based in current and future international agreements; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton City Council at their meeting of January 25, 2017 expressed their opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, in its present form, to Prime Minister Trudeau, Federal Cabinet Ministers and the area MPs and requested the consideration and support of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities continue to work with the federal government to support the interests of municipalities across Canada affected by trade disputes and during ongoing trade agreement negotiations;

(b) That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities work to ensure that the federal government understands the full impact of trade disputes and provisions under discussion for trade agreements on local economies, key industry sectors, and municipal governments, and conveys that impact during negotiations; and

(c) That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities call on the federal government to design and implement programs to mitigate the impact of trade disputes that affect local economies and key industry sector.