

# CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee Date: February 5, 2020

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

**SECONDED BY MAYOR / COUNCILLOR .....**

### Leaving Children Unattended in a Vehicle

WHEREAS, the Province of Quebec, under section 380 of the *Highway Safety Code* Chapter C-24. 2, prohibits a person from leaving a child under the age of 7 unattended in a vehicle;

WHEREAS, section 218 of the *Criminal Code* and Section 136 of the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act*, S.O. 2017, c. 14. Sched.1 prohibits abandoning a child, there is no explicit provision in Ontario to prohibit a person from leaving a child unattended in a vehicle;

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario under the *Highway Traffic Act*, RSO 1990, c. H. 8, does not have adequate language that prohibits a person from leaving a child unattended in a vehicle;

WHEREAS, the Province of Quebec is the only province with an age limit for leaving children unattended in a vehicle; and,

WHEREAS, there have been concerns of the health and safety of children being left unattended in vehicles in the City of Hamilton.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Mayor correspond with the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation and local Members of Provincial Parliament to request that the Province consider adopting similar provisions to Quebec, specially that a person is prohibited from leaving a child under the age of 7 unattended in a vehicle; and,
- (b) That a copy of the correspondence be forwarded to other Ontario municipalities and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario requesting their endorsement.