

**CITY OF HAMILTON
MOTION**

Council Date: December 11, 2013

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Facilitating Public Demonstrations at City Hall

Whereas the City of Hamilton wishes to protect the democratic right of citizens to express their disapproval or objection to the policies and actions of government through group protests.

Therefore be it Resolved:

- (a) That the City Hall Forecourt continue to be made available as a space for protests to take place with no rental fee.
- (b) That protest organizers be encouraged to provide notification of a planned protest to the Facility Help Desk of City Hall.
- (c) That protest organizers who provide at least 48 hours' notice of a planned protest after regular business hours (8:30 AM – 4:30 PM) be provided with access to indoor City Hall facilities at no cost provided the space is available and/or does not conflict with other City of Hamilton business.
- (d) That protests that include additional event elements, such as food preparation and service or amplified music, be required to comply with the guidelines for the Special Events Advisory Team (SEAT) to ensure public health and safety at the event.
- (e) That the Special Events Advisory Team (SEAT) will attempt to expedite all protest-related applications, in recognition of the spontaneous nature of many protests.