

Request for Council's Consideration

X Agenda Item
Notice of Motion given on
June 23, 2020

Date of Council Meeting: July 7, 2020

Subject: Day of Peace – 2020 and support for the abolishment of nuclear weapons

Motion for Council to Consider:

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. Declare August 6, 2020 a Day of Peace, and support the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Appeal for the banning of all nuclear weapons;
2. Direct that the City Hall carillon be rung 75 times as “Bells for Peace” at noon on August 6, to commemorate the tragic 75th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the Japanese cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima by the United States of America;
3. Allow the creation of removable chalk outlines on the Grand Parade to commemorate the tens of thousands who were killed in the first and only deployment of nuclear weapons in war, and that Grand Parade be a place of gathering in responsible social distanced silence; and
4. Request the Mayor on behalf of Council write a letter to the Federal Government in support of the abolishment of nuclear weapons.

Reason:

From the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs website:

Nuclear weapons are the most dangerous weapons on earth. One can destroy a whole city, potentially killing millions, and jeopardizing the natural environment and lives of future generations through its long-term catastrophic effects. The dangers from such weapons arise from their very existence. Although nuclear weapons have only been used twice in warfare—in the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945—about 14,500 reportedly remain in our world today and there have been over 2,000 nuclear tests conducted to date. Disarmament is the best protection against such dangers, but achieving this goal has been a tremendously difficult challenge.

Outcome Sought:

The Halifax Regional Municipality show support for the banning of nuclear weapons.

Councillor Richard Zurawski

*District 12 Timberlea – Beechville – Clayton Park
- Wedgewood*