



# MEMBER MOTION

## Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

<b>Meeting:</b>	Committee of the Whole	Council <b>X</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 28, 2019	
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Canada's National Anthem	
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Councillor Beros	

Whereas in a unanimous decision on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that reciting a prayer at council meetings infringes on freedom of conscience and religion;

Whereas on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Richmond Hill Council discussed alternatives to opening Council meetings with Prayer;

Whereas on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Councillor Beros and Councillor Muench brought forward a motion proposing that Canada's national anthem be sung at the beginning of Council meetings;

Whereas on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in a recorded vote Councillor Beros, Councillor Liu, Councillor Muench, Councillor Chan voted in favour;

Whereas the two Regional Councillors that voted against the motion were replaced after the last municipal election;

Whereas other municipalities and jurisdictions, such as the City of Toronto, sing Canada's national anthem prior to their meetings;

Whereas Canadian identity and national symbols such as the Canadian national anthem unite all Canadians and provide a joint sense of pride;

Therefore Be It Resolved that this issue be placed on the March 25, 2019 Council meeting agenda;

Therefore Be It Further Resolved that the time between now to March 25, 2019, be used for Councillors, Regional Councillors, and the Mayor, to communicate with their residents and give them an opportunity to learn more about this issue and to have their opinion heard, before Council makes a decision.

**Moved by:** Councillor Beros

**Seconded by:**