

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2008

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The Federal Government currently has jurisdiction over ownership of firearms, but the Provincial Government have jurisdiction over transportation and motor vehicle licensing and as such, by supporting this Act, it will send a strong message to the public that we are serious about public safety and about eliminating these unlawful firearms in our community.

With the passing of this Bill, it will become the first of its kind in Canada. This Bill would allow a police officer who, on reasonable and probable grounds, believes that a person has committed an offence, the officer will (a) request that the driver surrender his/her driver's license; and (b) detain the motor vehicle until it is impounded. The driver's license will automatically be suspended for a period of seven days from the time the request is made and the vehicle will be detained and impounded for seven days from the time it was detained (under clause (4) (b) of the Bill.) However a police officer may release the motor vehicle to its owner before its impoundment or be released BEFORE the expiry of the seven day period, IF the officer is satisfied that the vehicle was stolen when the prohibited act of driving took place.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

That the Region of York Council and the York Region Police Board support this recommendation.

Conclusion

By supporting this motion, we are not only promoting public safety but we are suppressing conditions leading to crime by prohibiting driving on the highway in a motor vehicle in which there is an unlawfully possessed firearm.

Attachments

1. Bill 56
2. Bill 56 – Backgrounder
3. Bill 56 – Petition Form

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)