7.2

MOTION

Council Date: May 10, 2006

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MERULLA.................................

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR...........................................

WHEREAS firefighters provide an invaluable service to the public and may risk their own personal safety in order to protect the lives of residents of the City of Hamilton;

AND WHEREAS studies have shown that firefighters suffer from an incidence of some cancers and other diseases that is significantly greater than the normal population, and that this may be due to firefighters’ exposure to toxic chemicals and carcinogens during the course of fighting fires;

AND WHEREAS, in response to these studies, the Provinces of Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia have amended their Workers Compensation legislation to include a presumption that, for identified types of cancer in firefighters, the disease is attributable to work as a firefighter;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Hamilton City Council call on the Ontario Provincial Government to review Ontario’s Workplace Safety and Insurance Act in order to ensure that firefighters and their families receive fair and timely compensation for illness or disease that is attributable to their work as firefighters; and that this motion be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Federation of Canadian Municipalities.