



**Report
Number:** PFC2021-0262

Meeting: Priorities and Finance Committee

Meeting Date: 2021 February 16

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Council endorsement of technology to help missing children

Sponsoring Councillor: Jeromy Farkas

WHEREAS in 2019, there were 40,425 reports of missing children in Canada as reported by the RCMP using numbers provided by the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC);

AND WHEREAS the Missing Children Society of Canada (MCSC) is a 35-year-old organization that has gone from putting up posters of missing children to partnering with police organizations to help locate missing children;

AND WHEREAS the Amber Alert system has a high threshold; therefore, many missing children do not meet the criteria to be listed on the network and predators need time and anonymity to harm a child;

AND WHEREAS Calgary City Council endorsed a new technology launched by the MCSC in 2020, encouraging all city staff to download the MCSC Child Search Network 'MCSC rescu' web app in order to receive real-time, location-specific push notifications if a child is reported missing in their geographical area;

AND WHEREAS On Oct. 22, 2020, the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness expressed his support for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police's (CACP) decision to adopt the MCSC Child Search Network as a standard resource to be used by all police services in Canada to support the investigation of all high-risk missing children cases in the country;

AND WHEREAS the MCSC and the Calgary Police Service (founding police partner) have done the initial work to launch the Child Search Network and prepare for the nation-wide roll-out;

AND WHEREAS the CACP will be making a national announcement in the coming days of the Canada-wide roll-out for all police organizations to use the Child Search Network as their primary technology to located missing children;

AND WHEREAS the MCSC Child Search Network has migrated their rescu app from a browser-based application to a native app running on the Apple and Android platforms;

AND WHEREAS City of Calgary Corporate Security, City Clerk's Office, Law and Information Technology have reviewed the publicly available privacy and technical information related to the MCSC rescu application and have concluded that accessing the application from City of Calgary devices poses a low risk to the City from an information and privacy perspective and are comfortable with operating the application on City-owned devices.

AND WHEREAS this is an opportunity for the City of Calgary to demonstrate leadership on a national scale at no cost to the organization to help achieve the goal of locating missing children.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Council approves the native Missing Children Society of Canada Child Search Network 'MCSC rescu' web app to be pushed onto all City of Calgary-owned mobile devices, and encourages all employees and contractors to download the app onto their personal devices and register for alerts.
2. That the City of Calgary joins the public relations efforts of the MCSC and Calgary Police Services to spread awareness about the technology through their various media channels and communication.