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Toronto, Ontario  
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2009-03-04 15:29

March 4, 2009

c/o Christine Archibald  
Administrator, Toronto & East York Community Council  
City Clerk's Office  
City of Toronto, 100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ONT M5H 2N2

**RE: TD Canada Trust Toronto Jazz Festival 2009**

To Whom This May Concern,

On behalf of the Toronto Downtown Jazz Society, organizers of the TD Canada Trust Toronto Jazz Festival, I am formally requesting declaration of the 23rd annual Toronto Jazz Festival as a special event of municipal significance. This declaration will allow the Festival to apply to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission for an extension of serving hours at four official festival venues for the duration of the event. The 2009 festival dates are Friday June 26th through Sunday July 5th.

For the past 16 years the festival has hosted licenced, after-hours jam sessions from 1:00am - 4:00am. For ten years it was held at the official host hotel. In 2005 the home of the after hours jazz jam moved to The Rex Jazz & Blues Bar and Sage. For the past 4 years Dominion on Queen and Lolita's Lust, as well as The Rex have been the official designates. Last year we added a new venue, The Supermarket. With your approval we will once again apply for the extension of serving hours until 4:00am for the duration of the festival at the Dominion On Queen, Lolita's Lust, The Supermarket and The Social. These venues will be official Festival venues and will programming during regular hours as well.

The Festival has established a tradition of select official venues hosting Late Night Jazz Jams where visiting and local musicians gather to jam and socialize. The after-hours jam sessions are a very important component in the overall festival experience and contribute to it's success. They provide the opportunity for participating artists to socialize and perform together. Ordinarily, this is impossible since many artists perform until closing at other clubs. The jam sessions create a unique and spontaneous, special-event atmosphere. The international camaraderie makes the Toronto Festival a special highlight for both visiting musicians and the general public. Everyone involved agrees that the jam sessions have been one of the great aspects of the Festival.

The mandate of the Toronto Downtown Jazz Society is to promote interest and awareness of jazz and to advance knowledge of jazz culture and tradition throughout Canada. The Toronto Jazz Festival is Toronto's annual opportunity to grasp the attention of the world's jazz fans, musicians, tourists, journalists and festival-goers.



Each year the Festival surpasses its reputation for excellence and receives more international attention from media and visitors. Since 1987 it has been proud of its commitment to showcasing leading-edge Canadian artists from Toronto and nationwide. Impressive outdoor stages treat crowds to free and ticketed concerts featuring all styles of jazz including blues, gospel, traditional, bebop, avant garde, Latin, worldbeat and more.

Toronto is renowned as a clean safe and cosmopolitan city. Visitors come from around the world to experience the jazz festival in one of the world's truly great cities. 1500 performers, many journalists, media representatives, and over 500,000 listeners make beautiful downtown Toronto their destination every year to enjoy this celebration of music. Most festival venues are centrally located in downtown Toronto within easy walking distance of each other. From the unique Toronto Star Stage concert marquee located at City Hall ... to the dozens of popular night clubs & restaurants where culinary delights abound and interesting people mingle. Free concerts daily, ticketed shows featuring today's hottest jazz stars, free jazz workshops, Artist Talkbacks, dozens of jazz nightclubs, and an Artisans' Village. It's all part of the Toronto Jazz Festival experience.

The free, outdoor stage focus of the event makes it possible for everyone to be exposed to the music and jazz fans are in their element. The essence of the festival is democratic and accessible - the curious bystander, delightfully surprised tourist, or the committed jazz enthusiast all have equal opportunity to enjoy the music that enlivens Toronto.

Not only the artists and audiences benefit from the Festival activity. Benefits are recognized by clubs, restaurants, venues, record labels, tourism industry, retailers, media organizations, community, regional and national publications, the hospitality industry, etc. etc. The positive effect on the musical form and its impact on public consciousness can not be measured. There is undeniably a major benefit derived by artists, record companies and agencies to both the increased interest in the music, the networking and information sharing that occurs through the festival and the appreciation of the work of many talented artists who might otherwise remain unknown or under-recognized. Since 1987 the Festival has been presenting jazz enthusiasts with thousands of the worlds best performances.

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario has requested that the City's declaration specifically state that the endorsement is in support of our application for extension of serving hours to 4:00 am at The Supermarket, Dominion On Queen, The Social and Lolita's Lust for the duration of the Festival.

I hope you will contribute to the success of the 23rd annual Toronto Jazz Festival by declaring the festival an event of municipal significance. Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or require any further information please feel free to contact me at 416-928-2033 Ext. 22 or [tdjs@tojazz.com](mailto:tdjs@tojazz.com).

Sincerely,

Patti Marshall  
Director of Operations

