

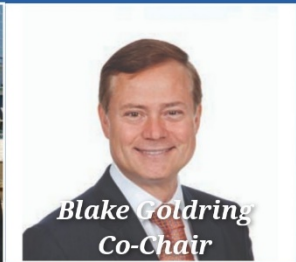
**Building Back Stronger:  
Report of the City of Toronto Economic and  
Culture Recovery Advisory Group**

**Economic and Community Development Committee  
December 7, 2020**

# Group Mandate and Membership

Co-chaired by Deputy Mayor Michael Thompson and Blake Goldring (Executive Chairman, AGF Management Ltd.), the City of Toronto's Economic and Culture Recovery Advisory Group brought together 20 dedicated and diverse community leaders to identify priority actions to advance the city's economic and cultural recovery.

## *Economic and Culture Recovery Advisory Group*



# Developing a Roadmap for Action

- The group's recommendations are a collaborative effort, informed by ongoing discussions and research. They complement and build on the work completed by the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild.
- Recommendations reflect the group's shared belief in a recovery founded on equity and inclusive economic growth, and a vision for city-wide prosperity.
- Recommendations are grouped into four areas of focus:
  1. Economic Recovery
  2. Anti-Racism and Inclusion
  3. Workforce and Talent
  4. Arts and Culture



# Economic Recovery

## Recommendations:

1. Lead North American cities in linking safety to productivity.
2. Work with the TTC and major employers to develop marketing and communication efforts and possible incentives to encourage a safe return to work using public transit.
3. Keep commerce moving with a coordinated approach to traffic and public realm improvements.
4. Expand and enhance existing initiatives to rebuild local tourism.
5. Incentivize and facilitate local retail innovations to promote local resilience during the recovery period and expand opportunities for small businesses.



# Anti-Racism and Inclusion

## Recommendations:

6. Pursue a program of specific community investments to promote the encouragement, scaling and sustainability of business and cultural enterprises led by Black, Indigenous and equity-deserving groups.
7. Improve access to technology and capital for BIPOC-led non-profits, businesses, and entrepreneurs.
8. Co-develop programs and initiatives with Indigenous partners to amplify the presence and impact of Indigenous-led businesses in Toronto.
9. Collaborate with employers and community partners to break down barriers to the participation of persons with disabilities in the workforce.
10. Recognize child care as a cornerstone of a gender-inclusive economic recovery.



# Workforce and Talent

## Recommendations:

11. Work with federal, provincial, Indigenous, higher education, professional associations, trade unions and business counterparts to bring all orders of government together to create a long-term, strategic approach to workforce development and training.
12. Encourage collaboration among industry partners to champion support for workers as a cornerstone of economic recovery.
13. Establish a Youth Economic Recovery Table with a particular focus on youth employment, training, and more equitable access to opportunity.



# Arts and Culture

## Recommendations:

14. Design an arts-focused fund-matching program for private foundations and other major donors, with a focus on cultural recovery efforts, and encouraging partnerships and representation for BIPOC artists, and initiatives.
15. Co-develop with community partners a training and leadership development program for the arts, with an emphasis on empowering diverse, emerging BIPOC voices in the sector.
16. Continue to advance opportunities for cultural engagement in all parts of the city, year-round.
17. Support creative industries with funding and infrastructure for digital adaptation.
18. Preserve existing and create new, affordable spaces for culture across the city.



Questions?

