



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula Fletcher**

City Councillor | Ward 14 Toronto-Danforth

June 14, 2021

Councillor Joe Cressy
Chair, Board of Health

Dear Chair and Members of the Board of Health,

Re: HL29.1 - Response to COVID-19 - June 2021 Update

While Ontario's move to Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen allows concert venues, theatres, and cinemas to open outdoors for the purpose of rehearsing or performing a recorded or broadcasted concert, artistic event, theatrical performance with no more than 10 performers, is a positive step forward, it does not reflect regulatory fairness with other industries. Stages remain dark and artists remain out of work. The live performance sector has safety guidelines approved by the Minister of Labour and are working hard for regulatory fairness to reopening with other sectors.

Recommendations:

Request the Medical Officer of Health to advocate for regulatory fairness on behalf of the performing arts sector in the ongoing deliberations with Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario and other provincial counterparts on the following priority issues:

1. Requesting in-person, indoor rehearsals be allowed.
2. Requesting indoor livestreaming and recording within professional venues be allowed.
3. Distance-based capacity for seated outdoor performances; percentage-based capacity for indoor performances; details on both confirmed and communicated in advance so that organizations can plan and prepare for re-opening in the longer term.

Ultimately, our performing arts organizations are looking forward to welcoming back audiences to live indoor performances when it is safe to do so. In the interim they are in dire need of immediate support.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
City Councillor
Ward 14, Toronto – Danforth