CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 981-2023

To amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 608, Parks, to extend the pilot program allowing for the possession and consumption of liquor in certain parks.

Whereas under sections 7 and 8 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, the City may pass by-laws respecting the use of its parks system; and

Whereas subsection 41(1) of the Liquor Licence and Control Act allows council of a municipality to designate by by-law a public area for persons to consume liquor; and

Whereas Council has authorized changes to Municipal Code Chapter 608, Parks to extend the pilot program allowing the consumption of liquor in various City parks;

The Council of the City of Toronto enacts:

1. Municipal Code Chapter 608, Parks, is amended by deleting section 608-8D and replacing it with the following:

   D. Despite Subsections A and C, a person may possess an open container of liquor and consume liquor in the parks listed in Schedule A from August 2, 2023 to the later of March 31, 2024 or the date that City Council considers an evaluation report from the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation of the alcohol in parks pilot program as directed and adopted by City Council in Item EC5.1 on July 19, 20 and 21, 2023, between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 12:00 a.m. without a permit or the approval of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, provided that this exception does not apply to a person in possession of an open container of liquor or consuming liquor:

   (1) within the boundary of an outdoor swimming pool or deck; or

   (2) within the boundary of and a two-metre radius surrounding a:

      (a) playground safety surface or playground equipment;

      (b) wading pool basin or splash pad; or

      (c) skateboard park.
2. This by-law shall cease to be in effect at 11:59 p.m. on the later of March 31, 2024 or the date that City Council considers an evaluation report from the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation of the alcohol in parks pilot program, as directed and adopted by City Council in Item EC5.1 on July 19, 20 and 21, 2023.

Enacted and passed on October 12, 2023.

Frances Nunziata, Speaker

John D. Elvidge, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)