TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

City of Toronto Support for the Assembly of First Nations Annual General Assembly in Toronto July 16 to 20, 2012

Date:	May 1, 2012
To:	City Council
From:	General Manager, Economic Development and Culture
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:/2012/Cluster A/EDC/CNCL/ed1205-001

SUMMARY

This report addresses a request received by staff from the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and a motion from City Council to address support from the City of Toronto for cultural activities associated with the AFN's Annual General Assembly in Toronto from July 16-19, 2012.

Specifically it addresses in-kind and financial support requested by the AFN for activities at City-owned Fort York Historical Site, Sony Centre for the Performing Arts (legally known as the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts) and Exhibition Place.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Economic Development and Culture recommends that:

1. City Council approve waiving the $1,040 affiliated rental rate for use of Fort York National Historical Site on July 16, 2012 by the Assembly of First Nations; and that Assembly of First Nations be responsible for all additional staff costs and other fees, estimated at $4,600.

2. The Economic Development and Culture division facilitate the planting of a white pine tree at Fort York Historical Site in keeping with historical, archaeological, and horticultural plans for the Site.

3. The Economic Development and Culture Division and other City Divisions, continue to provide advice and help to facilitate the various aspects of the Assembly of First Nations Annual General Assembly and related activities as deemed appropriate by relevant City officials.

4. City Council request that all City agencies, boards and commissions, such as Exhibition Place, the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, and the Toronto Police Services, cooperate as much as is feasible with the Assembly of First Nations in planning activities associated with the Annual General Assembly.

Financial Impact

The City of Toronto will waive the affiliate rental fee of Fort York National Historical Site of $1,040.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Equity Impact Statement

Divisions' efforts to provide accessible, equitable and barrier - free services to their customers and clients help to enhance the City's capacity as a whole to achieve customer service excellence, meet legislative and policy obligations, and make Toronto an equitable, inclusive and prosperous city.

DECISION HISTORY

On on the March 28, 2012 meeting of the Government Management Committee, a report titled *Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal Communities in Toronto, Passed by City of Toronto* (2012.GM12.20) was adopted without amendment. This report referenced a July 6, 2010, City Council adopted report titled *Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal communities in Toronto – Towards a Framework for Urban Aboriginal Relations in Toronto* (2010.EX45.5)
http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.GM12.20
http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2010.EX45.5

The City of Toronto's Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal communities in Toronto outlines the principles which are important to achieving strong Aboriginal-Municipal relations and guides the City in its on-going relationships with Aboriginal communities, discussions with other municipalities and orders of government and inform all aspects of departmental policy, planning and service delivery throughout the Toronto.

On April 10 and 11, 2012 , City Council adopted the following motion (MM22.15) *City of Toronto Support for the Assembly of First Nations Annual General Assembly in Toronto July 16 to 20, 2012* which stated: City Council direct the City Manager to work

with the Assembly of First Nations to assist in the planning of the Annual General Assembly being held in Toronto this July, including how to facilitate events on City streets, in Parks and at venues owned by the City such as Fort York and the Sony Centre, and report back to City Council at its May 8 and 9, 2012 meeting.
http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.MM22.15

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Assembly of First Nations (AFN)
The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is the national representative organization of the First Nations in Canada and is the national political body of the Aboriginal people of Canada. There are over 630 First Nation's communities in Canada. The AFN Secretariat is designed to present the views of the various First Nations through their leaders in areas such as: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Economic Development, Education, Languages and Literacy, Health, Housing, Social Development, Justice, Taxation, Land Claims, Environment, and a whole array of issues that are of common concern which arise from time to time.

Annual General Assembly (AGA)
The Annual General Assembly (AGA) is hosted every year and a National Chief is elected every three years. The City of Toronto won the right to host the AGA through a competitive bid process in August 2010.

This year, the Assembly and election will be hosted in Toronto July 16 to 20, 2012. The event is expected to attract 630 chiefs from across Canada and will bring 4,000 to 5,000 delegates and the estimated delegate hotel spend is $2.12 million, in addition to additional spending in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

The AGM is being coordinated by the AFN 2012 Host Committee in addition to sub-committees as required. In addition to formal activities at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, a full social and cultural program is planned including a Veterans Procession and Memorial Service; potential street re-naming, Opening Ceremonies and receptions; private and public viewing of Norval Morrisseau paintings; National Chiefs Dinner; Gala theatrical Presentation with VIP Reception; and potential Cabaret evening. The original cost of the social and cultural program was estimated at $2.2 million, though the program is being reduced due to difficulties with funding. Confirmed public sector funding includes $349,000 from Canadian Heritage, $50,000 from the Ministry of Culture & Heritage, $50,000 from the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, $25,000 from Ontario Power Generation and $25,000 from Hydro One with other private sector donations and sponsorships.

Veterans Procession & Memorial Service – Fort York National Historical Site – July 16, 2012

The Veterans Procession & Memorial Service is planned to increase the awareness and knowledge of the general population on the contributions made by First Nations during the War of 1812. The primary purpose of the Memorial Service is to provide a national recognition by First Nations for their ancestral contributions. There are four key aspects to this day:

1. Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centre (OFIFC) Mural Unveiling at their location (219 Front St.)
2. Gathering of Eagle Staffs and Procession (to begin at 219 Front St.- Fort York)
3. Memorial Service at Fort York
4. VIP Reception co-hosted with ROM & Enbridge.

The Memorial Services will take place on Monday, July 16, 2012 with activities throughout the day and the main service between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Attendance is estimated between 5000 – 7000 people.

The Memorial Service at Fort York is open free of charge to members of the public. In addition the AFN has requested a legacy component, the planting of a white pine tree at Fort York National Historical Site as part of the service.

Gala Presentation – Sony Centre for the Performing Arts

2012 is the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. First Nations played a major role in the war and today's history books and the monuments are scare in providing the appropriate recognition of these contributions or provide misconceptions on the history. The Ontario Regional Chiefs plans to present an original theatrical presentation which spotlights and celebrates the various contributions and impacts made by First Nation people. Presentation is open to the public through tickets.

COMMENTS

In addition to the April 10 and 11, 2012 motion from Toronto City Council, at a meeting between City staff and the AFN on April 5, 2012 and April 24, 2012, the AFN requested the City of Toronto support of the Annual General Assembly cultural program in five areas:

1) Waiving all costs associated with using the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts (legally called the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts) for the Gala Performance and VIP Reception.
2) Waiving all costs associated with using Fort York National Historical Site for the Memorial Service.
3) Facilitating the planting of a white pine tree at Fort York National Historical Site.
4) Waiving all costs associated with using Exhibition Place parking lots
5) Becoming a "sponsoring partner" of the Annual General Assembly and contributing financially to event.

Fort York National Historical Site

The City of Toronto owns and operates Fort York National Historical Site through the Economic Development and Culture Division's Cultural Services. Built in 1793, Fort York National Historic Site is the birthplace of urban Toronto and is best known as the location where the Battle of York came to its violent climax in 1813 during the War of 1812. The Fort served as the city's primary harbour defence between the 1790s and the 1880s, and was the home of a military garrison until the 1930s. Today, its defensive walls enclose Canada's largest collection of original War of 1812 buildings with eight historical structures. Fort York offers seasonal guided tours as well as musket, drill, and music demonstrations, in addition to rentals for special events.

The AFN has selected this site, due to the historical nature and relevance to the Aboriginal Community, as the site for the Memorial Service on July 16, 2012. Additionally, along with the Memorial, is another component the planting of a white pine tree at Fort York.

Cost for utilizing Fort York Historical Site

Fort York, during this event, will stay operational and remain open and be free to the public.

The fees for utilizing the site for special events are governed under the municipal code and include a private rate at $6,000/day or affiliate rate at $1,040/day plus $1,860 of operational staff costs for a total of $3,000/day. Additional costs for special event staff and services, during the event are required are on a cost recovery basis. Please see Attachment A for details. Staff recommend waiving rental fees for this event.

In addition a $5,000 refundable damage deposit would apply. Organizers are also required to have a waste management, emergency management and crowd control plan.

The AFN estimates costs related to the production of the Memorial Service at Fort York to be $50,000 which includes staging, audio/visual equipment and staff, chairs, washroom facilities, and shuttle services. Please see Attachment B for details.

The City of Toronto operates several grant programs for local organizations with specific eligibility requirements. The City of Toronto does not have a grant program to support significant events and conference, such as the AFN/AGA, nor does funding exist within the 2012 operating budget to provide a financial contribution to this event.

The City of Toronto's Event Support Unit, part of EDC's Cultural Services, has been liaising with organizers of the Assembly of First Nations and their affiliates, since the fall of 2011 providing logistical advice and facilitating various aspects of the event including assistance on routes and permits for a 5 km walk/run.

Sony Centre for the Performing Arts

The Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, legally still called the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts, is owned by the City of Toronto and operated independent of the City through an arms-length agency governed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors would be solely responsible for approving any reduction or waiving of fees and expenses associated with using the venue.

The AFN would prefer to use this site as the venue for the Theatrical Gala and VIP Reception. Depending on the nature and the extent of the programs, costs could be in the multiple $100,000s.

Exhibition Place

Additional parking at lots operated by Exhibition Place has been requested at a cost of $3,420. Requests to waive or reduce the costs of renting these parking lots would need approval of the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place. Please see Attachment C for details.

Tourism Toronto

Tourism Toronto, Toronto's Convention and Visitors Bureau, has committed significant resources to assist the conference and will be providing the following complimentary items to AFN as they qualify for Tourism Toronto's "Signature Service" program.

- Welcome Signage in domestic arrivals at the Lester Pearson International Airport and Billy Bishop Airport, extending the "We've Been Expecting You" welcome message
- Welcome Signage at AFN's official hotels and the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, also incorporating the "We've Been Expecting You" welcome message
- Hydro pole street banners (welcome signage) also incorporating the "We've Been Expecting You" welcome message
- Buttons for front of line staff to wear at the hotels and MTCC
- Airport Transfers
- Visitor Guides and maps
- An AFN/Tourism Toronto website page, customized for AFN

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A:	Facility Costs for AFN Memorial Service at Fort York National Historical Site
Attachment B:	Production Costs for AFN Memorial Service at Fort York National Historical Site
Attachment C:	Parking Costs for the AFN Memorial Services at Exhibition Place