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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SECRETARIAT SECTION

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December 20, 2011

c/o Rosalind Dyers
Administrator, Toronto & East York Community Council
City Clerk's Office
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: TD Toronto Jazz Festival 2012 - Special Event of Municipal Significance

To Whom This May Concern,

On behalf of the Toronto Downtown Jazz Society, organizers of the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, I am formally requesting declaration of the 26th 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 2012 festival dates are Friday June 22nd through Sunday July 1st.

For the past 19 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 after hours jazz jam grew to 4 chosen locations in the City. 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, and two other locations to be determined. These venues will be official Festival venues and will have programming during regular hours as well.

The Festival has established a tradition of select official venues hosting Late Night Jazz Jams providing the rare opportunity for visiting and local musicians to jam and socialize. This is usually impossible since artists are busy performing until closing at other venues. The jam sessions create a unique and spontaneous, special-event atmosphere.

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.

The Festival draws over 500,000 people annually to 350 performances in 40 Toronto locations. Each year this world-class festival presents approximately 1500 of the best Canadian and International musicians performing a diverse range of jazz and related music styles including traditional, contemporary, Latin, blues, world, funk, bebop and big band over 10 days. Visitors will experience jazz from noon - 4am daily at free indoor and outdoor stages, ticketed mainstage performances, concert halls and more than 30 clubs and restaurants. Other unique attractions include an Artisans' Village, educational opportunities - free workshops, mentoring sessions, public artist meet & greets and Groove & Graffiti interactive presentations. Nathan Phillips Square will be the home of the festival mainstages and the hub of the event.

Visitors come from around the world to experience the jazz festival in one of the world's truly great cities. Performers, journalists, media representatives, and over 500,000 listeners make beautiful downtown Toronto their destination every year to enjoy this celebration of music. Festival venues are centrally located in downtown Toronto within easy walking distance of each other.

In the past 25 years over 1900 free public concerts have been presented, making it possible for everyone to be exposed to the music. 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.

Over the years, the Festival has contributed over \$420 million to the GTA economy. Benefits are recognized by retailers, clubs, restaurants, venues, record labels, tourism industry, media organizations, community, regional and national publications, the hospitality industry, etc. etc.

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 Dominion On Queen, Lolita's Lust and two other Festival venues to be determined for the duration of the Festival.

I hope you will contribute to the success of the 26th 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.

Sincerely,

Patti Marshall
Director of Operations