

Ms Ulli Watkiss  
City Clerk  
13th Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

June 5, 2014

Dear Madam:

We, the volunteer citizen Board members of the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, are tendering our resignations, effective immediately.

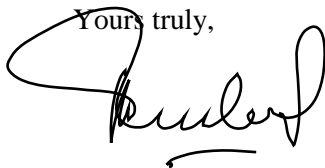
Each of us was appointed to the Board on or after October 2011, which is after the events in the recent Auditor General's report took place. Subsequently, media coverage and developments at the City had the effect of unfairly shifting responsibility to us for certain transactions which occurred between 2006 and 2011, even though we were not present on the Board at that time. This is despite several Councillors having expressed that the current Board had nothing to do with these transactions.

As we tender our resignations, we would like to emphasize that the City has always played a role with respect to the Board of the Sony Centre and the redevelopment project itself. During the time period to which the Auditor General's report relates, at least three City Councillors sat on the Board. Currently, there are four City Councillors on the Board, and City Staff have regularly attended and actively participated in our Board meetings.

After much consideration, we have concluded that it would not be possible to continue the Board's important agenda in this current environment, including the need to secure a strong leader for the Centre in the short term. The Sony Centre is a historic cultural institution, and it deserves stability of leadership so that it can continue to realize its – and our – vision of a vibrant and financially independent future.

It is unfortunate that Board oversight of the Sony Centre has become politicized, making it impossible for volunteer citizens to effectively serve as Board members.

We would like to thank City Council for the opportunity to serve, and encourage the citizens of Toronto to continue to support this important cultural asset.

Yours truly,  


Ron Forbes

Sharon Groom  
Caroline Abela  
Chester Cheang  
Brian Cheng

Dustin Cohen  
Ihab Khalil  
Gail Matthews

c.c. Joseph Pennachetti, City Manager  
Yvonne Davies, City Clerk's Office  
Councillor Gary Crawford  
Councillor Frank DiGiorgio  
Councillor Pam McConnell  
Councillor David Shiner