



RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
ELECTIONS & REGISTRY
SERVICES - 1 NORTH

2014 JUN 2 PM 2 05 *sm*

CARIBANA™ ARTS GROUP

215 Spadina Avenue, Suite 400, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5T 2C7 • 647-693-4441 • www.caribana.com

June 2, 2014

ED31.7.1

To: Toronto City Clerk
Attn: Ms. Ulu S. Watkiss and Toronto City Council
100 Queen St. West, 13th floor, West Tower

Dear Toronto City Councillors and Department of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism,

The CARIBANA™ Arts Group would like to inform the City of Toronto, its city councillors and respective departments on important details regarding the annual CARIBANA™ festival.

There is a grant that is to be approved by the city that will be going allocated toward the Festival Management Committee to assist in the production of the annual Caribbean festival that takes place on the first Saturday of August along the lakeshore that is traditionally known as CARIBANA™.

The CARIBANA™ Arts Group would like to inform the city that the CARIBANA™ organization is still operating, and has been since its inception in 1967. CARIBANA™ presents events throughout the year and is responsible for creating the internationally known CARIBANA™ festival that has attracted millions of visitors our city, and a festival that historically generated \$438 million dollars of economic activity in the city, and \$198 million dollars of Provincial and Municipal tax revenue.

In 2006 an agreement was made with the city to receive assistance from the Festival Management Committee in regards to financial management and oversight of the funds used to produce the annual festival. According to the agreement the FMC was to dissolve on December 31st 2006 and present a report on how the festival should be managed financially.

From 2008-2011 the CARIBANA™ Arts Group attempted to work with the FMC on a compromise that would see the CARIBANA™ Arts Group retain control of the festival, and have the FMC manage the financial matters of the organization. Unfortunately no agreement was made and the FMC continues to manage a festival that the CARIBANA™ Arts Group created as a Caribbean cultural community event to share with Toronto, with a specific responsibility and accountability to community members.

The CARIBANA™ Arts Group is extremely concerned that attendance has been noticeably decreasing over the past 3 years, and community members are becoming disengaged from the festival due to the lack of CARIBANA™'s involvement, and the perception of corporate control over the historically successful cultural festival.

We believe that prior to approving this grant that the city should make it a condition precedent that the CARIBANA™ Arts Group be involved with the decisions on how the funds allocated for the annual Caribbean festival are distributed since the CARIBANA™ Arts Group is the organization that has founded, historically presented this festival.

If this is done the CARIBANA™ Arts Group can allocate its resources to ensuring that what is traditionally and still commonly referred to as the CARIBANA™ festival retains the cultural elements and community connection that it was founded upon, and which it so requires to keep moving forward with strength and support.

The name CARIBANA™ is an important part of the marketing that makes the annual festival successful, and the community volunteers and members want to see the festival return to its more tradition roots of carnival arts and culture, and not just be used as a tool to generate publicity and exposure for corporate sponsors.

If the founding organization becomes part of the conversation on how this festival is presented each year we anticipate that the influx of visitors and economic activity will return to the level they were at the height of the festival, and eventually increase as we go forward.

I ask that the CARIBANA™ Arts Group be able to make a deputation to the approving committee prior to approval of this years grant in order to enlighten the committee and city councillors on the challenges and successes being faced by the community and the organization.

This year the CARIBANA™ Arts Group presented the second annual CARIBANA™ ON ICE, and the 3rd annual CARIBANA™ Flags and Colours at Yorkgate Mall in the Jane-Finch community. CARIBANA™ has presented these events with no government grants and all through volunteers and sponsorships.

The task is not a simple one, but it is done for the citizens of Toronto and on behalf of the founders of this great festival that generates hundreds of millions annually for the city of Toronto.

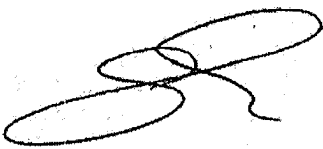
Attached is a copy of the accord with the Caribbean Cultural Committee, which is now the CARIBANA™ Arts Group, and the FMC, and a copy of a press release for historical context of the organization and its relationship to the city and the FMC.

We hope that we have your support in regards to the acknowledgement, recognition, and the presentation of the annual CARIBANA™ festival presently, and for future generations to come.

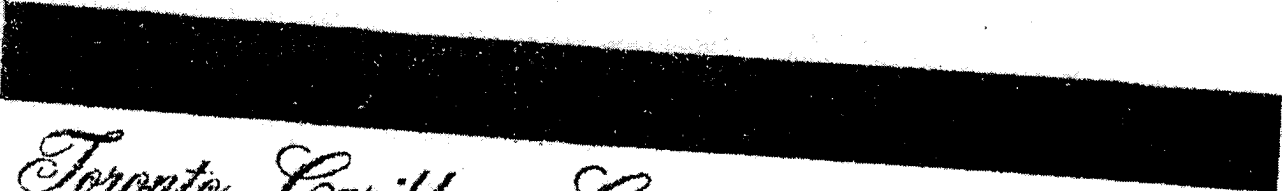
Sincerely,

Knia Singh (George B. Singh)
Chair

CARIBANA™ Arts Group



23



Toronto Caribbean Carnival

Festival Management Committee

1470 Don Mills Rd
Suite 305
Toronto, Ontario
M3B 2X9
Tel: (416) 391-5608
Fax: (416) 391-5693

May 30th, 2006

Joe Halstead
Chair, Festival Management Committee (FMC)
1470 Don Mills Rd. Suite 305
Toronto, ON., M3B 2X9

Dear Board of Directors, Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC):

I am pleased to send the attached "offer of agreement" from the Festival Management Committee (FMC). The terms of the agreement have been crafted in a manner that I trust will address the major outstanding issue of concern to the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) regarding the 2006 Carnival Festival, specifically the inclusion of the name "Caribana" in the 2006 Festival brand.

You should be aware that the attached agreement has been endorsed by the members of the Festival Management Committee (FMC), which includes the representatives from the Toronto Mas Band Association (TMBA), the Ontario Steelpan Association (OSA) and the Organization of Calypso Performing Artists (OCPA). The membership of the TMBA also ratified the "offer of agreement" at its meeting on Saturday, May 27th, 2006.

I trust that this agreement properly addresses the resolvable concerns of the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) and the associated community advocacy group, "Hands Off Caribana (HOC)". I look forward to the CCC Board of Director's approval of the attached agreement and the beginning of a co-operative relationship between the FMC and the CCC.

Sincerely,

Joe Halstead,
Chair, Festival Management Committee



May 30th, 2006

Joe Halstead
Chair, Festival Management Committee (FMC)
1490 Don Mills Rd. Suite 305
Toronto, ON., M3B 2X9

Dear Board of Directors, Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC):

I am pleased to send the attached "offer of agreement" from the Festival Management Committee (FMC). The terms of the agreement have been crafted in a manner that I trust will address the major outstanding issue of concern to the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) regarding the 2006 Carnival Festival, specifically the inclusion of the name "Caribana" in the 2006 Festival brand.

You should be aware that the attached agreement has been endorsed by the members of the Festival Management Committee (FMC), which includes the representatives from the Toronto Mas Band Association (TMBA), the Ontario Steelpan Association (OSA) and the Organization of Calypso Performing Artists (OCPA). The membership of the TMBA also ratified the "offer of agreement" at its meeting on Saturday, May 27th, 2006.

I trust that this agreement properly addresses the resolvable concerns of the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) and the associated community advocacy group, "Hands Off Caribana (HOC)". I look forward to the CCC Board of Director's approval of the attached agreement and the beginning of a co-operative relationship between the FMC and the CCC.

Sincerely,

Joe Halstead,
Chair, Festival Management Committee

AGREEMENT

The CARIBBEAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE (CCC) and the FESTIVAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (FMC) are pleased to announce that an accord has been reached on the staging of this year's Caribbean Festival.

1. The Festival Management Committee (FMC) acknowledges that the annual Caribbean Festival [Caribana] was conceived and developed by the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) and is a valuable, intellectual and artistic property and its ownership is vested in the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC).
2. The Festival Management Committee (FMC) agrees to name the 2006 Caribbean Festival, "*Toronto Caribbean Carnival (Caribana)*".
3. The CCC agrees that neither the composition nor the mandate of the Festival Management Committee (FMC) will be changed by this agreement. The CCC acknowledges that the Festival Management Committee (FMC) was created as a neutral, arms-length body that is providing overall governance and financial oversight for the 2006 festival, and will continue to do so.
4. The accord will come to an end on December 31st, 2006.
5. The Festival Management Committee (FMC) agrees to use the trademark Caribana once a licence agreement has been secured with the CCC.

Councillor Joe Mihevc, City Council Liaison to the Caribbean Festival, endorses the agreement and confirms that the changes made continue to fulfill the conditions of the City of Toronto's 2006 grant to the Toronto Mas Band Association (TMBA).

The CCC agrees that, while there are still some details to be negotiated with the Festival Management Committee (FMC), the accord will bring an end to the protests mounted by Community Activists.

21
June 5th, 2006

Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC)
138 Hamilton St.
Toronto, ON., M4M 2E1

Dear Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) Board of Directors:

I understand that the Caribbean Cultural Committee (CCC) has recently agreed to the terms of an "offer of agreement" with the Festival Management Committee (FMC) regarding the name of the 2006 Carnival Festival.

As City Council Liaison to the Carnival Festival, I want to congratulate the CCC and the FMC, which includes stakeholder representatives from the Toronto Mas Band Association (TMBA), the Ontario Steelpan Association (OSA) and the Organization of Calypso Performing Artists (OCPA), for coming to an agreement on the outstanding resolvable issue.

I am pleased to wholeheartedly endorse the agreement and look forward to a constructive and co-operative relationship being renewed between the CCC, the FMC and the Carnival Festival stakeholders. I am confident that this agreement will foster improved relations between the 2006 Carnival Festival stakeholders and can ensure that the 2006 "*Toronto Caribbean Carnival*" is the most successful Carnival Festival to date.

I want to state that, by endorsing this agreement, I am confirming that the arrangements are consistent with the conditions of the City of Toronto's 2006 cultural grant to the Toronto Mas Band Association (TMBA). In that regard, given the circumstances, I can confirm that the City of Toronto has no further issue with the terms of support for the 2006 Carnival Festival.

Finally, I would appreciate if the CCC were to issue a letter of apology for the negative public comments made by members of the CCC Board of Directors about myself. An apology of this sort will certainly clear the air and serve to bring comfort to my future dealings with the CCC.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, St. Paul's West
City Council Liaison to the Carnival Festival

CC: Mayor David Miller; Joe Halstead, Chair, FMC; Terry Nicholson; Don G. Eastwood; Jim Bradley, Minister of Tourism; Narvan Singh; Bev Oda, Minister of Heritage