

August 19, 2014

Dear Chair and members of Executive Committee,

Re: EX44.3 – Proposed Basketball Training Centre at Exhibition Place

I write to you as Chair of the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place in support of the proposed Basketball Training Centre at Exhibition Place. Not only does the proposal bring an additional high performance athletic training facility to the City it addresses a critical shortage of publicly available court space in the City's downtown core. Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment and the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club will pay the entirety of the estimated \$30 million in construction costs while Exhibition Place will receive over \$200 000 in annual rent payments.

This proposal is truly a win/win for the City and MLSE. Not many years ago the City and MLSE partnered on the Mastercard Centre for Hockey Excellence which has been a spectacular success bringing much needed community space to South Etobicoke. The proposed Basketball Training Centre would mimic this success in a community eager for additional recreational opportunities.

I urge members of community to vote in support of this item. If you would like to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me at councillor_grimes@toronto.ca or by phone at 416-397-9273.

Sincerely,



Mark Grimes