

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM51.5	ACTION			Ward:19
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Electronic Dance Music Concerts - Exhibition Place - by Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson, recommends that:

- 1 City Council, pursuant to subsection 141(1)6. of the City of Toronto Act, 2006:
 - a. require the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place to reverse the policy adopted by the Board on April 11, 2014 to not undertake new negotiations for the purpose of leasing Exhibition Place facilities to third parties for the purpose of staging Electronic Dance Music Concerts (EDMs) subject to any executed license agreement, and to adopt a policy consistent with City Council's decision of August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 to permit such events at Exhibition Place, on condition that safety measures are established;
 - b. require the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place to direct the Chief Executive Officer of Exhibition Place to undertake a consultation process to review the safety protocol for Exhibition Place Facilities Requirements, attached as Appendix A, including consultation with the City of Toronto Emergency Services and Toronto Public Health for EDM and dance parties, and to make appropriate amendments resulting from this review to ensure that Exhibition Place and event producers provide a safe venue for these events; and
 - c. require the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place to report back to Council by July, 2014 on the review of its April 11, 2014 decision, after completion of the consultation process and the review of its safety protocol, with its decisions on the hosting of EDMs at Exhibition Place facilities.

Summary

The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place on April 11, 2014 adopted a policy directing Staff of Exhibition Place to not enter into any new negotiations with third parties to stage electronic dance music concerts (EDMs) in buildings controlled by Exhibition Place, subject to any

executed license agreements and without limiting the existing rights of tenants including the manager of BMO Field.

The intent of this Motion is to recommend that Council require the Board to reverse this decision with a view to reinstating a policy established by Council on August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000, allowing Exhibition Place to lease its facilities to third parties for the purpose of producing EDMs. This Council policy, which included a safety protocol, was meant as a harm reduction strategy to draw rave activities from illicit and dangerous venues into safe environments with the appropriate safety measures.

City Council on September 26 and 27, 2011 requested the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place to prepare a development plan to increase annual revenues. Exhibition Place has made the expansion of its revenue opportunities an essential part of its 2014-16 Strategic Plan. One-time events such as EDMs contribute to the improved financial results of Exhibition Place. Allowing such events would also be consistent with the City's current efforts to revitalize the music industry. Further, it is consistent with the "Jury Recommendations Concerning The Death of Allen Ho" provided to Council in the July 10, 2000 staff report from the Commissioner of Urban Development Services that City-owned property be made available for raves, subject to specific safety measures, to allow for these parties to take place in a safe environment.

This Motion is urgent for the following reasons:

- Exhibition Place has already foregone future 2014 revenues by cancelling negotiations with third parties to stage two future EDM events at Exhibition Place; and
- the next meeting of the Board of Governors is May 23, 2014. Council's consideration of this Motion and direction to Exhibition Place for its May meeting would allow the Board to address Council's decision and report back to Council in 2014 prior to Council's recess.

(Submitted to City Council on May 6 and 7, 2014 as MM51.5)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM51.5

Appendix "A" Exhibition Place Facility Requirements for EDM and Dance Parties
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2014/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-68960.pdf>)