Endorsement of Events of Municipal Significance for Liquor Licensing During Council Breaks

Date: June 30, 2015
To: City Council
From: City Clerk
Wards: All

SUMMARY

This report asks City Council to authorise the City Clerk to process requests for designation as events of municipal significance for liquor licensing purposes during the summer, winter and election year Council meeting breaks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the City Clerk to deal with requests to designate events as municipally significant for liquor licensing purposes during the summer, winter and election period Council meeting breaks: in non-election years, from the last regular Community Council meeting in the summer (June or July) until the first Community Council meeting in September and from the last regular Community Council meeting of the calendar year until the first one in the new year; and in election years, after the last regular Community Council meeting before Nomination Day until the next regular meeting.

2. That during these breaks the Clerk consult with the Ward Councillor and, on the Ward Councillor's agreement, advise the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) that the City has no objection to the event being declared an event of municipal significance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report will have no financial impact.
DECISION HISTORY

In 2014 City Council authorised the City Clerk to deal with events of municipal significance during the Council meeting break over the election period. The City Clerk was able to consult with Ward Councillors and help more than 25 applicants get permission to hold their events.

COMMENTS

In 2012 the AGCO revised the licensing regime for special occasion permits so that almost all public events where liquor is sold (unless by a licensed caterer) require the City's designation as an event of municipal significance. The AGCO has recently emphasised their 30-60 day application deadlines, making it imperative that the City deal with requests promptly to ensure applicants can get their special occasion permit.

City Council has delegated the designation of events of municipal significance to Community Councils. However there is usually a break in meetings from late June to September and from late November to January. In 2015 there are Community Council meeting breaks from June 16 to September 1 and from November 10 until January 2016.

With Council's permission, the City Clerk will be able to facilitate events in the busy summer, fall and winter holiday seasons that need to request designation as events of municipal significance.

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SIGNATURE

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