City Council

Notice of Motion

MM9.14	ACTION			Ward:All
--------	--------	--	--	----------

Amendments to the Board Governance Structures of the City's Civic Theatre Boards - by Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti

* Notice of this Motion has been given.

* This Motion is subject to a re-opening of Item EX7.15. A two-thirds vote is required to reopen that Item. If re-opened, the previous Council decision remains in force unless Council decides otherwise.

Recommendations

Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti, recommends that:

1. City Council amend the Board Governance Structure for the boards of Civic Theatres Toronto, Hummingbird (Sony) Centre for the Performing Arts, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, and Toronto Centre for the Arts as follows:

a. by changing the effective date of the thirteen-member board compositions from November 6, 2015 to a date effective when City Council appoints the initial eight public members; and

b. by deleting from the list of ineligibility criteria, the criterion "the person is a supplier of goods or services to the performing arts sector;" and replacing it with the criterion "the person is a supplier of goods or services to the City's theatre facilities", so that the list of ineligibility criteria now reads as follows:

"Citizens are ineligible for appointment, and may not continue to serve as a member of the Board, if any of the following conditions apply to them or their immediate family members:

- the person is a supplier of goods or services to the City's theatre facilities;

- the person has an employment relationship with another performing arts theatre;

- the person has an employment, directorship, ownership or controllership interest in an organization that has an interest in performing or producing live performing arts at the City's theatre facilities." 2. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the necessary Bills to amend By-laws or Municipal Code Chapters, to give effect to Council's decision.

Summary

The City Theatres Nominating Panel held its first meeting on August 18, 2015 to discuss the timing of appointments for the City's four theatre boards. Two issues emerged from that meeting that need to be addressed in order to ensure that City Council is well positioned to recruit the best candidates to serve on these boards at this critical juncture.

Firstly, City Council approved board composition changes that will automatically add eight seats for public members, effective November 6, 2015, resulting in 13-member theatre boards. If those eight public members have not been appointed by that time, the boards will not have quorum. For this reason, City Council should change the effective date of the 13-member board compositions so that the new compositions will take effect when Council appoints the public members of the boards, anticipated for December 2015. This will allow for sufficient time for recruitment and screening of candidates.

Secondly, one of the Council approved eligibility criterion deems candidates ineligible if "the person is a supplier of goods or services to the performing arts sector". The broad nature of this criterion deters people from applying, and also screens out candidates with valuable knowledge of the industry. Council should replace this broad language with more specific language that would allow those with industry experience to apply, while still screening for direct conflicts of interest.

REQUIRES RE-OPENING:

Item EX7.15 adopted by City Council on July 7, 8 and 9, only as it relates to the eligibility criteria and effective date of the 13-member theatre board compositions.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM9.14