

**NYA Letter of Support For the City of Toronto  
October 26, 2016**

**EX18.7.26**

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

North York Arts is a Local Arts Service Organization designed to address the needs and interests of artists, arts organizations and residents in North York, by providing arts & culture programming and services outside of the downtown core of Toronto. We receive financial support from the City of Toronto, and partner on city-wide initiatives.

We work in collaboration with North York based City Councillors, City of Toronto's Culture Division, artists, arts groups, residents and local businesses. We work with diverse organizations that serve the newcomer, youth and senior demographic. The artists and arts organizations that we work with contribute to a growing economy and arts sector.

Hosting an Expo is a unique opportunity to define what it means to be not just Canadian in the 21st Century, but Torontonians of all cultural backgrounds. Tying community benefits to the build of an Expo will allow Toronto and North York residents employment, skills development and leadership to Toronto's equity seeking groups.

Over the last 6 months, we have contributed to community engagement initiatives across Toronto with the broad and diverse communities across to be part of shaping Expo. Through our community consultations in North York, residents have expressed interest in an Expo that is innovative, accessible, inclusive, and as diverse as the residents of Toronto. Our artists want to contribute to an Expo that uses the talents of Torontonians to fight poverty, promote equity across Canada, and introduce new technologies to the world.

Expo provides a platform for artists and arts organizations in North York to tell their relevant stories to the world. Your signal of support will help the bid for EXPO 2025 be a transformative experience for the city, the country and generations of Canadians.

Thank you again for your consideration of this exciting prospect.

Sincerely,



Lila Karim  
Executive Director  
North York Arts



Ely Rosenblum  
Development & Communications manager  
North York Arts