



Economic Development & Culture  
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January 13, 2016

Request for recognition of event of municipal significance  
From: Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens

### **Statement of Significance**

Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens requests that the Gatsby Garden Party be listed as an Event of Municipal Significance.

### **Historical Significance**

Garden parties were popular past times in the 1910s and 1920s, held by churches and other organizations and at private homes. Usually held during afternoons, attendees enjoyed strolling beautiful summer gardens, playing games like croquet, listening to music, and resting under trees with refreshments.

Ladies wore summery dresses and hats, and people often travelled to garden parties in a car, a new mode of transportation. The Austin family, at their home Spadina, often hosted summer picnics and garden parties on their extensive grounds next door to Casa Loma.

### **Name of the Event**

Gatsby Garden Party

### **Exact Address or Location of the Event**

Spadina Museum  
285 Spadina Road  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5R 2V5

### **The Purpose of the Event**

Spadina Museum's restoration and interpretation focuses on 1920s and 1930s Toronto, exploring how Torontonians lived during times of great social, economic and technological change. The Gatsby Garden Party event will help Spadina Museum meet its interpretive goals and increase attendance and awareness of the museum.

The event is a two-day garden party which includes period music, instruction in period dance, a costume contest judged by costume specialists, playing of croquet on the lawn, and food and drinks for sale. Vintage gramophones will be played and 1920s cars will be on display.

The Gatsby Garden Party serves as an opportunity to experience a popular summer past time of the period. A tour of the house will be offered to tell the story of Toronto during the interwar years, and the dancing, music, croquet and other activities will allow one to be immersed in the social culture of the 1920s.

**The Date and Time of the Event**

Saturday, June 25, 2016

Start Time: Noon

End Time: 5 p.m.

And

Sunday, June 26, 2016

Start Time: Noon

End Time: 5 p.m.

**Contact:**

Karen Edwards

Museum Administrator

Spadina Museum

Museum and Heritage Services

Economic Development and Culture

City of Toronto

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