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Dec 19, 2016

Dear Toronto & East York Community Council Administrator,

The Gladstone Hotel would like to request a "Letter of Non-Objection" be written by the Toronto & East York Community Council in support of an application for a Special Occasion Permit for a community building initiative. This initiative will temporarily animate a currently empty property at 1181 Queen Street West (directly across the street from the hotel) and transform it into an art gallery and incubator for up-and-coming Toronto artists. The project (called the Art Hut) will run through April 30, 2017 at which point the landlord will be turning the storefront into a condo sales centre. Until then, the Art Hut will act as a temporary experimental art-activated social space, facilitating new ideas, creative expression, collaboration, and new ways of experiencing art, culture and community on this site which is on the cusp of transformation. The primary purpose of this initiative is to demonstrate leadership and commitment to engaging the local community and artists and enhancing daily life along Queen St W.

We will be partnering with artists, collectives and non-profit organizations to specifically profile and provide professional opportunities to artists of colour, indigenous artists and new generation artists (18-30 year olds). Through presentation of site specific artistic programs, the Art Hut aims to temporarily reclaim space for the creative community as well as connect directly with the changing neighbourhood as a means of sparking public dialogue and creating a foundation for building community into the future.

Approximately twice per month (see schedule below), we would like to offer alcohol for sale to the public during receptions or performances. Bar sales will generate some revenue to offset costs and support programming however it is anticipated that this will recover only a fraction of the anticipated total costs. The majority of costs related to on-site operations, marketing and administration costs will be absorbed by the Gladstone Hotel. Artist-fees, materials and installation costs will be shared by the hotel and collaborating artistic partners. The Art Hut initiative is projected to invest in excess of \$50,000 into the local arts economy providing approximately 100 artists with free space and other resources to support 18 artistic projects over the six month period.

All sales of alcohol at receptions and events will be managed by the Gladstone Hotel.



The list of confirmed non-profit partners and artists are as follows:

FADO Performance Art Centre <http://www.performanceart.ca/>
Toronto Design Offsite <http://todesignoffsite.com/>
Art Spin <http://www.artspin.ca>
B.A.N.D. <http://band-rand.com/site/>
Long Winter Festival <http://www.torontolongwinter.com/>
Endless City <http://www.endlesscity.org/>
Younger Than Beyonce <http://www.ytbgallery.com/>
Masking Collective
Centennial College School of Communications, Media, Arts & Design

The dates and times that alcohol will be sold are as follows:

Jan 6	7 pm-10:30pm	Long Winter Festival
Jan 21	4 pm - 8pm	Toronto Design Offsite
Jan 26	7pm - 10pm	Artist - TBC
Feb 9	7pm - 10pm	B.A.N.D.
Feb 23	7pm - 10pm	Artist - Camille Jodoin-Eng
Mar 3	7pm - 10pm	Artist - George Stamos
Mar 9	7pm-10pm	Black Art City Opening
Mar 18	7pm-10pm	Black Art City Closing
Mar 24	7pm - 10pm	Humboldt Magnussen and Anjuli Rahaman
Mar 31	7pm - 10pm	League of Lady Wrestlers
Thurs Apr 6 -	7pm -10pm	League of Lady Wrestlers
Sat Apr 15	7pm -10pm	Masking Collective
Fri Apr 28	7pm - 10pm	Endless City

We thank you for reviewing this request and should there be any further details that are needed, please let me know.

Chris Mitchell
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A bit of Gladstone Hotel history:

- The Gladstone is an established local leader visioning and delivering urban redevelopment;
- Built in 1889 and restored and reimagined by Christina Zeidler in 2005, the Gladstone Hotel has become an epicenter of creativity and a respected beacon of culture, diversity and sustainability with solid experience in creating immersive, dynamic experiences providing local community and international visitors with authentic opportunities to explore and interact with the living culture of artist life in Toronto.
- Gladstone Hotel President Christina Zeidler leads the entrepreneurial vision and business philosophy of the hotel as an ongoing experiment in cultural entrepreneurship and urban development which embraces creativity and invites collaboration and innovation and is largely inspired by urban planning visionary Jane Jacobs.
- Preserving both the essence of the building's architectural and history while opening community access to an important Toronto landmark, it was Christina's idea to create a model of stewardship in development by successfully facilitating new ideas, creative expression, collaboration, and new ways of experiencing art, culture and community.
- The project is constantly pushing the boundaries of commerce, culture, and community.