



## REPORT FOR ACTION

### Authority for Endorsement of Events for Liquor Licensing

**Date:** July 16, 2018  
**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** City Clerk  
**Wards:** All

#### SUMMARY

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The purpose of this report is to authorize the City Clerk to write to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario to endorse events for liquor licensing purposes to fulfill the requirements for Special Occasion Permits and temporary liquor licence extensions, providing the events meet the criteria outlined.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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The City Clerk recommends that:

1. For the period between the July 4, 2018 Community Council meetings and the December 13, 2018 City Council meeting, City Council authorize the City Clerk to:
  - a. consider requests for endorsement of events for liquor licensing purposes based on the criteria and process set out in Attachment 1 to this report, including consultation with Ward Councillors; and
  - b. advise the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario that an event is of municipal significance and that there is no objection to a Special Occasion Permit being granted, and / or to an extension of licenced hours or area, if the City Clerk determines that the event meets the criteria set out in Attachment 1 to this report.
2. City Council request the City Clerk to report back to City Council in 2019 on a longer-term solution to process requests for endorsement of events for liquor licensing purposes.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT

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This report has no financial impact.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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City Council, at its meeting held on August 25 to 28, 2014, authorized the City Clerk to deal with requests for declarations of Municipal Significance during the election recess so that event organisers could get Special Occasion Permits. This process applied only to Special Occasion Permits and was based on the Ward Councillor's agreement:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.CC55.10>

## **COMMENTS**

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City Council gave the City Clerk authority to deal with Special Occasion Permits during the election recess to allow community festivals, gallery openings and the like to get permits to serve liquor in unlicensed areas while Community Councils and Council were not meeting.

Since then, requests for extensions of licensed hours or areas in licensed venues, for events like performing arts festivals and sports championships, have increased. The City Clerk needs Council authority to issue a 'letter of non-objection' for these types of requests during the election recess.

The City Clerk also suggests a new process that adds objective criteria for all event types. Establishing criteria for both Special Occasion Permits and extensions keeps the legislative decision-making with Council and enables the City Clerk to apply standards to make an administrative decision. Criteria were informed by the type of events approved during the Council term and comments heard from Members of Council.

Members of Council will still be notified of events and can object but will not need to take on the sole burden of evaluating and approving an event during the election period.

At the start of the 2018-2022 Council term the City Clerk will consult with the affected Councillors and evaluate how the process functions over the election recess, with the aim of reporting to Council in 2019 on a longer-term solution to handle these requests.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Ulli S. Watkiss  
City Clerk

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1 - Criteria for Endorsement of Special Events for Liquor Licensing