



## REPORT FOR ACTION

# Condition and repair of the "Garden of the Greek Gods" Hercules sculpture

**Date:** September 5, 2019

**To:** The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

**From:** Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer

**Wards:** All

### SUMMARY

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The Board and Muzik Clubs Inc. ("Muzik") entered into a lease dated February 16, 2004, for premises consisting of the Horticultural Building and a surrounding patio area which lease was subsequently assigned by Muzik to Toronto Event Centre Inc. on April 27, 2017, and which expires on February 15, 2024. The patio area includes a number of sculptures known as the Greek Gods. The Hercules statue was removed from the patio in December 2018 for conservation and safety purposes.

At its meeting of June 13, 2019 the Board of Governors directed the Chief Executive Officer to not undertake any construction activities on the patio of Toronto Event Centre related to the reinstatement of the sculpture Hercules but report back to the Board at its meeting on September 19, 2019 on the condition of Hercules and the results of the conservation and restoration efforts.

This report provides the Board with the two attached reports from the Board Consultant Trevor Gillingwater, Conservation Services Inc. on the condition of the sculpture Hercules pre- and post-conservation and recommends that the Board direct the Chief Executive Officer on the reinstatement of the sculpture Hercules.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board direct the Chief Executive Officer to take the necessary steps for the reinstatement of the sculpture Hercules on the Toronto Events Centre patio in a manner consistent with the recommendations of the Stone Conservator, outlined in Attachments 1 and 2

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

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There are no financial implications to this report.

## DECISION HISTORY

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At its meeting of April 25, 2003, the Board approved of the terms of the Lease with Muzik Clubs Inc. which was subsequently approved by City Council at its meeting of June 24, 25 and 26, 2003.

<http://www.google.ca/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CB8QFjAAahUKEwj7h6nwuzHAhWEox4KHY5yC9Y&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.toronto.ca%2Flegdocs%2F2003%2Fagendas%2Fcouncil%2Fcc030624%2Fpof5rpt%2Fcl017.pdf&usg=AFQjCNFNnGxqiNunUbj3HhellLjspi6rxw>

At its meeting of June 13, 2019 the Board approved an Agreement with Toronto Event Centre Inc. respecting Article 4 of the Toronto Event Centre Lease. In addition, at its meeting of June 13, 2019, the Board adopted a motion to direct the Chief Executive Officer to not undertake any construction activities on the patio of Toronto Event Centre related to the reinstatement of the sculpture Hercules but report back to the Board at its meeting on September 19, 2019 on the condition of Hercules and the results of the conservation and restoration efforts.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EP3.23>

## COMMENTS

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Trevor Gillingwater, Stone Conservator, has been retained by Exhibition Place since 2015 to conduct repairs and conservation on the Garden of the Greek Gods, a collection of 21 sculptures by Toronto artist E.B. Cox located on the Toronto Event Centre patio.

A significant acceleration in the deterioration of the Hercules statue was noted and communicated during the 2018 maintenance review and repairs of the sculptures. The deterioration was characterized by significant spalling taking place immediately at the grade level and increased humidity and efflorescent salts running a considerable height up the legs of the statue by capillary draw of moisture from the ground. This deterioration was caused by severe freeze and thaw weather during the winter of 2017-2018, combined with the saturated ground in which the sculpture was standing.

Due to the risk of structural instability posed by the weakened base, the Hercules sculpture was removed from the Toronto Event Centre patio in December 2018 for repairs. Repairs and conservation were conducted in June 2019. The condition of the sculpture pre- and post-repairs is detailed in the reports from Trevor Gillingwater, attached to this report as Attachment 1 and Attachment 2.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Don Boyle  
Chief Executive Officer

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1 - Hercules: Condition and Repair, Post Removal From Base Into Storage  
(Report by Trevor Gillingwater, February 2019)

Attachment 2 - Hercules: Conservation Repair to Lower Foot Zone of the Sculpture  
(Report by Trevor Gillingwater, August 2019)