



REPORT FOR ACTION

Travel and Professional Development for Exhibition Place

Date: October 9, 2019

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer

Wards: All Wards

SUMMARY

This report recommends approval of accommodation and travel related expenses for five Exhibition Place staff to attend the Web Summit Conference 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal in early November to work closely with our client Collision Conference -Toronto ("Collision") with their other event Web Summit and to liaise with their technical personnel during their visit at the Altice Arena facility in Lisbon. Exhibition Place staff will be there as workers, to observe and service both move in and event days, in order to better understand the event infrastructure and operations so that we can better service the client for their next Collision event here at Exhibition Place in the summer of 2020 and 2021. Our staff will also be attending meetings with Web Summit management, event staff, and IT/Telecom service providers so that they have access to the details of service provision and will be able to recreate or adjust as necessary for the Collision Toronto event at Exhibition Place.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board authorize expenses for the following Exhibition Place staff, John Koperwas, Director of IT/Telecommunications and Records & Archives; Andrew Landrigan, Event Coordinator; Jeff Mann, Manager Production Services; Laura Purdy, Acting General Manager Sales and Event Management; and Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer to attend the Web Summit event in November 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal at the Altice Arena at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 plus HST.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for attendance and participation estimated at \$20,000 + HST are included in the 2019 Operating Budget under travel and convention within the CEO Department. Admission to the event will be provided at no charge by Web Summit show management for the entire conference dates.

DECISION HISTORY

The 2017 - 2019 Strategic Plan has an Organization and Staffing Goal to develop a professional development strategy that addresses all challenges and opportunities within the Exhibition Place workforce.

Exhibition Place entered into a three-year Licence Agreement with Collision - Toronto for 2019, 2020 and 2021 event.

The Board's travel policy for business trips states that travel expenses over \$3,500 per staff must be approved by the Board.

COMMENTS

Collision is the fastest-growing tech conference in North America. Now in its seventh year, Collision has grown to over 30,000 attendees. Following the lead of their European event Web Summit, Collision has become a crossroads for the world's most influential buyers, sellers, emerging companies, and policymakers. Quick facts on Collision, 1,600 CEO's, 100 countries, 61% senior management, 1,300 journalists with 46 percentage female attendance. Quick facts on Web Summit, 11,000 CEO's, 160 countries, 2,000 journalists, 1,200 speakers with 70,000 attendees.

The team of Exhibition Place staff who are going to Web Summit in Lisbon have been chosen for their expertise in their field and will be working closely with our client counterparts during their time at the facility. In addition to building relationships, Exhibition Place staff will be scheduled as workers for the event, to service both move in and event days, in order to better understand the event infrastructure and operations so that we can better service the client for their next event here at Exhibition Place in summer 2020 and 2021. Our staff will also be attending meetings with Web Summit management, event staff, and IT/Telecom providers so that they have access to the details of service provision and will be able to recreate or adjust as necessary for the upcoming event at Exhibition Place.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Don Boyle
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS
