

November 11, 2019

Executive Committee  
Toronto City Council

Re: Meeting item EX10.3

Dear Members of Executive Committee:

On behalf of Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation, I am writing in support of the proposed new Parkland Strategy coming before committee on November 14.

TAC and TAF have been very pleased to work in partnership with Parks, Forestry and Recreation to present **Arts in the Parks** for the past four years.

Arts in the Parks is a summer-long, inclusive arts initiative that brings almost 300 arts events to 50 parks in every corner of the city, from Etobicoke to Scarborough and North York to the downtown core. Events are free, designed for all ages and include theatre, music concerts, film screenings and community-engaged arts activities.

Through Arts in the Parks, we are also able to run an extensive volunteer program engaging people of all ages in programming and promotion of events within their neighbourhoods.

*Animating Toronto Parks*, TAC's granting program, provides additional funding opportunities for events happening in parks outside the downtown, ensuring more opportunities for residents all over the city to enjoy free arts performances, and to participate in community events.

We strongly support the Parkland Strategy's emphasis on partnerships, equity and inclusion and accessibility and are very pleased to continue to work with Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation to help realize these objectives.

Yours truly,



Claire Hopkinson  
Director & CEO

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